

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES QUICK REFERENCE

| DISEASE                 | NOTIFIABLE | HOW CAUSED   | INCUBATION PERIOD                | INFECTIOUS FOR   | PERIOD OF EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL  |
|-------------------------|------------|--|----------------------------------|--|--|
| CHICKEN POX             | NO         | Airborne or droplet infection; direct contact with fluid from a vesicle Of an infected person. Once the scabs are dry they are no longer infectious. | 10-21 days (usually 13-17 days)  | From 2 days before rash until all blisters have crusted.     | Exclude until at least 5 days after the eruption first appears. Some remaining scabs do not justify exclusion  |
| CONJUNCTIVITIS          | NO         | Direct or indirect contact with secretion from infected eyes   | 1-3 days                         | While eye discharge is present.                              | Exclude from school until discharge from eyes has ceased. Contacts: do not exclude.  |
| SCHOOL SORES (IMPETIGO) | NO         | Contact with infected person.  | 1-3 days                         | Until sores are healed.                                      | Exclude from school until effective treatment (including the proper use of occlusive dressings) has been instituted.   |
| HEAD LICE (PEDICULOSIS) | NO         | Contact with infested person or clothing.  | 1-7 days                         | Until lice and nits (ova) are destroyed.                     | Exclude from school until effective treatment has been instituted and nits removed from hair. Contacts: family contacts will probably be infested and should be treated. |
| INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS  | NO         | Airborne or droplet infection, or direct contact with contaminated nose or throat secretions.  | 1-3 days                         | 2 days before onset of symptoms to 5 days after.             | Re-admit on recovery.  |
| MEASLES                 | YES        | Spray or droplet or direct contact with contaminated nose or throat secretions.  | 7-18 days (usually 10-14 days)   | 4-5 days before to 4 days after the appearance of rash.      | Exclude from school. Re-admit on medical certificate of recovery, or at least 4 days from appearance of rash, if well. Contacts: do not exclude.                         |
| RINGWORM                | NO         | Contact with infected persons, articles or animals (especially cats).  | 4-14 days                        | As long as lesions contain fungus & spores.                  | Exclude from school. Re-admit on medical cert. that the child is no longer likely to convey the infection. Contacts: do not exclude.                                     |
| HEPATITIS A             | YES        | Contact with case or carrier. Contamination of fingers, foods or drinking water. By faecal material from infected person. Flies may act as vectors.  | 15-50 days (usually 3 - 5 weeks) | From several weeks before onset of symptoms to 7 days after. | Exclude from school. Re-admit on medical cert. of recovery or on subsidence of symptoms, but not before 7 days after onset of jaundice.                                  |