



MINNEAPOLIS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Urban Education. Global Citizens.

## Minneapolis Public Schools Health Related Services



### Impetigo

Dear Parent/Guardian:

A case of impetigo has been identified and treated in your child's classroom. Properly treated cases are no longer infectious. However, we want to make you aware of the following:

**Cause:** Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection. It usually occurs on the nose, arms, or legs or around the mouth.

**Symptoms:** Your child may have sores on the skin. The sores can produce a thick golden-yellow discharge that dries, crusts, and sticks to the skin. It usually begins at a break in the skin. It could start near a cut or insect bite.

If your child is infected, it may take 1 to 10 days for symptoms to start.

**Spread:** By touching the fluid from the sores.

**Contagious Period:** Until sores are healed or the person has been treated for at least 24 hours.

**Call your Healthcare Provider:** If anyone in your home has symptoms of impetigo. Your doctor may prescribe a medication.

**Exclusion: Need to stay home?**

**Yes,** if impetigo is confirmed by your healthcare provider, until 24 hours of treatment has been completed and sores are drying.

**Prevention:**

- Wash hands after touching anything that could be contaminated with fluid from the sores. Your child may need help with hand washing.
- Clean and disinfect objects that come in contact with fluid from the sores. Use a product that kills germs.
- DO NOT share towels, washcloths, or clothing.
- Keep sores covered with a bandage. Remind children not to scratch the sores.

Report cases to the school health office. For more information, call Hennepin County Epidemiology at 612-543-5230.