

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY

RE: NOTIFICATION OF CHICKEN POX AND SHINGLES

24/05/2021



Ocean View College B-12

A case of Chicken Pox has been detected at OVC. The person is following medical advice and is at home, isolating. It is a highly infectious viral infection causing a rash of small, red spots that later develop into blisters which can become very itchy.

We have outlined below some general guidelines for your information.

Chicken pox is a viral infection caused by the varicella-zoster virus.

Symptoms include fever and "cold-like" symptoms followed by a rash. The rash appeared blisters which crust to form scabs. The rash is more noticeable on the trunk than on the limbs and may affect the scalp and the inside of the mouth, nose and throat. The rash is usually itchy.

Incubation period (time between becoming infected and developing symptoms) is two - three weeks, commonly thirteen – seventeen days.

Infectious period (time during which an infected person can infect others) is from two days before the rash appears (during coughing, runny nose stage) until 5 days after the appearance of the first blister.

Control of spread

- exclude person with chicken pox until fully recovered or for at least five days after the rash first appears. Note that some remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion.
- any child with an immune deficiency (eg leukaemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded from contact with a case of chicken pox or shingles for their own protection.
- wash hands after contact with soiled articles (tissues, etc) Dispose of tissues appropriately.

Treatment

- seek medical advice for treatment
- for all cases, calamine lotion or phenergan (available from chemists) may be useful for the itch.

It spreads via personal contact, sneezing or coughing. If your child shows symptoms please isolate them from other people and seek medical advice.

Please remember to contact the school on 8248 1422 to report any absences from school.

Chris Brandwood
Principal



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Le Fevre
PENINSULA PARTNERSHIP

R-12 Campus

Gedville Road,
Taperoo SA 5017
T 08 8248 1422
F 08 8341 8235

Harbor View Campus

3 McLaren Parade,
Port Adelaide SA 5015
T 08 8447 4934
F 08 8447 5670

Children's Centre

Gedville Road,
Taperoo SA 5017
T 08 8248 2593
F 08 8341 9920

dl.0908_info@schools.sa.edu.au

www.oceanview.sa.edu.au

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