



Greenwich Public Schools
School Health Services

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)

Dear Parents:

There has been RSV diagnosed in your child's classroom. RSV is a contagious disease caused by a respiratory virus called the Respiratory Syncytial Virus. Please monitor your child carefully and notify your physician if your child develops any of the following signs or symptoms listed below.

What are the signs or symptoms?

- Runny nose
- Decrease in appetite
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Fever
- Wheezing

What are the incubation and contagious periods?

- Incubation Period: 4 to 6 days
- Contagious Period: 1-2 days after signs or symptoms appear until at least 3-8 after the onset of RSV.

How is it spread?

- An infected person coughs or sneezes
- You get virus droplets from a cough or sneeze in your eyes, nose, or mouth
- You have direct contact with the virus
- You touch a surface that has the virus on then touch her face before washing your hands

How do you control it?

- **Frequent and careful hand washing with soap is most important.** Children and adults should cover their noses and mouths when sneezing or coughing with disposable tissue if possible, or with your arm if no tissue is available. Wash hands after contact with soiled tissues or any soiled items and dispose of tissues after each use.

What is the treatment?

- Call your child's physician if your child has the above symptoms and fever. Viruses are not treated with antibiotics, but your physician will advise you regarding supportive care for your child while ill. Please report episodes of confirmed RSV (diagnosed by physician) to the nurse's office as soon as possible.

When can my child return to school?

- Your child may return to school when his/her symptoms have significantly improved, and your child is able to partake in the activities of the school day. **YOUR CHILD MAY NOT RETURN UNTIL HE/SHE IS FEVER FREE FOR 24 HOURS WITHOUT TAKING TYLENOL OR MOTRIN. NEVER GIVE ASPIRIN!!**

If you have any questions, please call your School Nurse.