

Chicken Pox (Varicella)

Date:

Dear Parents/Guardian,

Chicken Pox (Varicella) has been reported in your student's class.

Chicken Pox (Varicella) is a rash illness that is caused by the varicella-zoster virus. The rash can appear all over the body and develops into itchy-fluid filled blisters that usually scab over within a week. A fever or not feeling well can precede the rash by 1-2 days. Students with these signs and symptoms need to contact their healthcare provider for confirmation of illness and treatment.

Transmission occurs through contact with the secretions from the nose, mouth, eyes, and throat of an infected individual or by direct contact with the fluid in the blisters.

Incubation Period: 10-21 days Contagious Period: 2 days before rash appears and until all lesions have dried and crusted.

Recommended Actions:

- Please notify your school's health office if diagnosed with chicken pox.
- Students are excluded from school until all lesions are dried and crusted/scabbed over. Students will need to check into the health office before returning to school to confirm that the lesions are scabbed over.
- If any high-risk individuals including immunocompromised persons or pregnant women are exposed to the student, they need to contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible.

Above information from Arizona Department of Health Services

Thank you,