



Collaborative Measles Response Blueprint for Summit County Schools

PURPOSE

To outline a coordinated response between the Summit County Health Department (SCHD) and Summit County schools when a student or staff member is suspected or confirmed to have measles. This protocol ensures collaboration, partnership, timely communication, containment, and protection of students, staff, and the broader community.

STEP-BY-STEP PROTOCOL

1. Initial Notification

- If a **school identifies** a student or staff member with possible measles symptoms (fever, rash, and/or cough, coryza, conjunctivitis), the **school nurse** will notify SCHD. (*Communicable Disease Rule R386-702*)
 - **SCHD and the school nurse** begin case investigation, collecting:
 - Symptom onset date
 - Immunization history
 - Recent travel or exposure history
 - Healthcare provider contact (if applicable)
- If **SCHD is notified** of a suspected or confirmed measles case (via provider report or UDHHS), SCHD will notify the school nurse and verify case details and laboratory confirmation with healthcare providers and the Utah Department of Health and Human Services (UDHHS).
 - If the case is confirmed and the individual attended school during their infectious period (4 days before to 4 days after rash onset), SCHD will notify the school nurse (or designated point of contact) within **2 hours**.

2. Case Investigation & Person Under Investigation (PUI) Determination

- SCHD will conduct the case investigation and coordinate with the provider.
- The school nurse will conduct any in-school contact tracing, SCHD will assist as needed.
- If symptoms are clinically consistent:
 - The student is designated a **Person Under Investigation (PUI)**.
 - The student should be **excluded from school and school-based activities** until measles is ruled out or confirmed.
- If there is **high clinical suspicion**, SCHD may initiate **preliminary response measures** before lab confirmation.

COALVILLE

85 North 50 East, PO Box 128
Coalville, UT 84017
435-336-3234

PARK CITY

650 Round Valley Drive
Park City, UT 84060
435-333-1500

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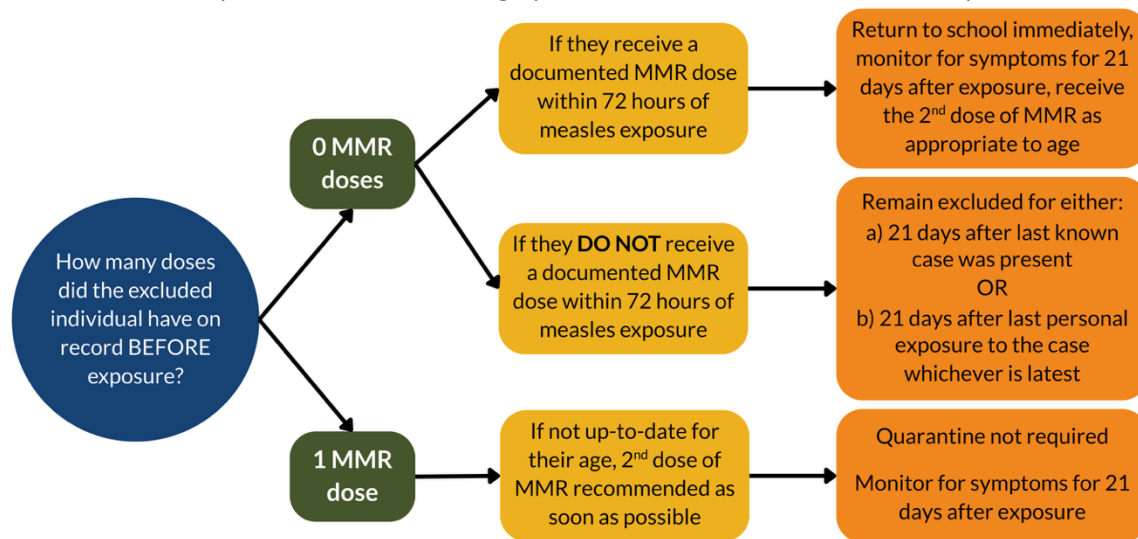
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Kamas, UT 84036
435-783-3161

3. School Collaboration During PUI/Confirmed Case

- If the PUI or confirmed case attended school while potentially infectious:
 - **Exposure Assessment**
 - School provides:
 - Class schedule, bus routes, extracurricular activity details
 - List of shared spaces visited
 - **Vaccination Records**
 - School provides immunization records for all potentially exposed individuals.
 - SCHD reviews and identifies individuals who are non-immune, exempt, or have unknown status.

4. Isolation and Exclusion Guidelines *(as directed in R396-100-8)*

- **Confirmed case:** Must isolate at home for **4 days after rash onset**.
- **Contacts by Immune Status:**
 - **0 MMR doses: Excluded from school immediately.** Recommend 1st dose of MMR.
 - If MMR is received **within 72 hours** of exposure, the student can return to school immediately, monitor for symptoms for 21 days after exposure.
 - If they **DO NOT** receive a MMR dose within 72 hours of exposure, they are to remain excluded from school and school activities for either:
 - a) 21 days after last known case was present, OR
 - b) 21 days after last personal exposure to the case, whichever is latest.
 - **1 MMR dose:** If not up-to-date for their age, **2nd dose of MMR recommended** as soon as possible. **Exclusion from school not required.** Monitor for symptoms for 21 days after exposure.
 - **2 MMR doses:** **Exclusion from school not required**, student is fully vaccinated. Monitor for symptoms for 21 days after exposure in event of breakthrough case.
- Schools should plan for remote learning options **for excluded students**, when possible.



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5. Communication

- SCHD and school leadership coordinate all communication in event of a confirmed case:
 - **Parent/Guardian Notification Letter:** Sent from school within 24 hours of confirmed case. SCHD will provide a template for schools to use.
 - **Staff Briefing:** To review symptoms, exposure risks, and exclusion policies.
 - **Public Messaging:** Managed and approved by **SCHD in collaboration with the schools.**
- In the case of a PUI:
 - **SCHD prepares draft parent/guardian letters and exclusion notices,** to be held until lab results are confirmed. SCHD will provide a template for schools to use.
 - Schools prepare internally for potential exclusions and staffing impacts.

6. Immunization Access

- SCHD will have MMR vaccine available at all SCHD locations.
- If MMR is received within 72 hours of exposure exclusion may be shortened (with SCHD approval).

7. Monitoring

- Schools will monitor exposed individuals for symptoms for **21 days** post-exposure.
- School nurses and parents are asked to report any new **fever or rash** to SCHD immediately.
- SCHD will monitor all cases and any family exposures.

8. Return-to-School

- School nurses can issue **return-to-school clearance** for excluded individuals who meet criteria - SCHD is available for consultation on any and all return-to-school clearance. The earliest return-to-school date will be included in the initial notification letter.

9. Post-Incident Review

- Within **2 weeks** of resolving the first outbreak case, SCHD will meet with school leadership from all districts to conduct a **debrief**, evaluate the effectiveness of the response, and share lessons learned with leaders from unaffected schools.
- SCHD will complete an **internal after-action report** and share findings and recommendations with the school district on an as-needed basis.

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