respect responsibility resilience

Bowden Brompton Community School

Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Wednesday, 18 November 2026

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY

RE: NOTIFICATION OF CHICKEN POX CONFIRMED CASE

We have been informed that one of our students from the **Little Para Campus** has contracted Chicken Pox. If your child attended the campus between Monday 9th November – Friday 13th November they may have been exposed during the infectious period.

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 first appears as blisters which crust to form scabs. The rash is more noticeable on the torso 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 2-3 weeks, commonly 13-17 days.

Infectious period (time during which an infected person can infect others) is from 2 days before the rash appears (during coughing, runny nose stage) until 5 days after the appearance of the first blister

Control of spread

- Exclude the person with chickenpox until fully recovered or for at least 5 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 for their own protection.
- Wash hands after contact with soiled articles (tissues, etc). Dispose of tissues appropriately.

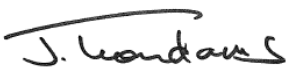
Treatment

- Specific antiviral treatment for both chicken pox is available.
- Medical advice should be sought if:
    - a child or adult with chicken pox has a high fever, cough, shortness of breath or chest pain,
    - a pregnant woman has chicken pox,
    - a person over 50 years of age has shingles.
    - For all cases, calamine lotion or phenergan (available from chemists) may be useful for the itch. If treatment to reduce temperature or discomfort is necessary, paracetamol is recommended

The safety and wellbeing of our school community is paramount. As such, we encourage you to keep your child away from school if you suspect they may be infected.

While we recognise this can be disruptive and inconvenient for many families it is important that we follow the DfE guidelines and advice and take all necessary precautions to minimise the risk of further transmission within our community.

Yours Sincerely,



John Leondaris
Principal

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