

# HEALTH ALERT



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**TO:** Physicians and other Health Care Providers

**Please distribute a copy of this information to each provider in your organization.**

Questions regarding this information may be directed to the office of:

**Alan Melnick, MD, MPH, CPH**

Health Officer

Clark County Public Health

Phone: (360) 397-8412

## Alert categories:

**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.

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**HEALTH  
ALERT**  
Oct. 18, 2018

## **Chickenpox outbreak at Daybreak Primary School in Battle Ground**



### ***Background***

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Daybreak Primary School in Battle Ground is experiencing an outbreak of chickenpox (varicella). As of Oct. 18, five cases have been reported to Clark County Public Health. The first onset of illness was Oct. 13. The last known possible exposure at Daybreak Primary School was Oct. 17.

### ***Exclusion of susceptible persons***

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Public Health is requiring exclusion of students and staff at Daybreak Primary School who cannot provide documented evidence of immunity. The exclusion will begin Monday, Oct. 22 and extend until Monday, Nov. 12. If additional chickenpox cases are identified, the exclusion may be extended.

In line with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, documented evidence of immunity to chickenpox is defined as:

- Any person born in the U.S. before 1980.
- Serology test results showing immunity to varicella.
- Documented provider-diagnosed history of prior chickenpox illness.
- Documentation that the student or staff received at least 1 dose of varicella-containing vaccine.

Self-reported prior chickenpox illness does not meet the evidence of immunity requirements.

Once proof of immunity is provided to the school, excluded students and staff can be readmitted.

### ***Provider action***

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Public Health is recommending students and staff who cannot provide documented evidence of immunity contact their health care provider to obtain either a titer or vaccination (if no contraindication to the varicella vaccine). Additionally, you may receive inquiries from families about the outbreak.

Clark County Public Health will continue to work with the school nurse to provide surveillance and support. Please contact our Communicable Disease unit, 564.397.8182, with any questions.

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