

Date:

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child may have recently been exposed to **impetigo**. Impetigo is a common skin infection caused by streptococcal or staphylococcal bacteria

**What are the symptoms of impetigo?**

Symptoms include small, red pimples or fluid-filled blisters with crusted yellow scabs found most often on the face, but may be anywhere on the body.

**How is impetigo spread?**

Impetigo is spread from person to person by direct contact with the fluid from the skin lesions or from contaminated surfaces. Germs can enter through an opening on skin.

**How is impetigo diagnosed and treated?**

Please contact your health care provider if your child has red pimples, fluid-filled blisters, or a persistent yellow scab.

**How do you control the spread?**

Children diagnosed with impetigo will be excluded from care until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours. If the infection is draining, it must remain covered with a clean, dry dressing (bandage or gauze) while the child is in care.

Hand washing is the most important way to control the spread of impetigo. Our staff also regularly cleans and sanitizes commonly touched surfaces and equipment.

**How do I get more information?**

For more information about impetigo, please contact your health care provider or the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department at (253)798-6410 and press "0".