



PUBLIC HEALTH FACT SHEET

MEASLES-RUBEOLA

Dear Parent:

This is to bring to your attention that a case of Measles has been reported for a student in your child's classroom and to provide you with information about this disease. If your child exhibits any of the symptoms described, it is recommended that you consult your healthcare provider or the Department of Health in Duval County Epidemiology Program at 904-253-1850.

What is Measles?

- A highly contagious viral illness
- A single case of measles anywhere in the United States is considered to be a reportable outbreak

What are the symptoms of Measles?

- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes and light sensitivity
- Small red spots in the mouth
- Rash at hairline and all over the body
- May have an ear infection or diarrhea
- Serious complications include pneumonia, convulsions, deafness, or death

How is Measles spread?

- Direct contact with infectious droplets or by airborne spread when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes
- Can remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected person leaves the room

How can Measles be prevented?

- Follow recommended immunization schedules for the Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine
- Frequent and thorough hand washing at all times
- People who are not vaccinated and are exposed to a confirmed case of measles will be excluded from school and or day care settings for the designated period of time

Implications for school

- Exclude students or staff
- Must have a healthcare provider's note to return

Resources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov

American Academy of Pediatrics:
<https://healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/abdominal/Pages/FoodPoisoning-and-Food-Contamination.aspx>