



Management of Contagious Conditions Policy and Procedures

POLICY

Purpose

This procedure outlines the responsibilities for the management of contagious conditions at Chinchilla Christian College, as prescribed in the [Public Health Act 2005 \(Qld\)](#) (the Act) and the [Public Health Regulation 2018 \(Qld\)](#) (the Regulation).

Chinchilla Christian College has a general duty under the [Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#) to minimise the risk of exposure of staff, students and others to infectious diseases (including contagious conditions) in the workplace.

Outline

Under Chapter 5 of the Act, the College is committed to protecting and promoting the health of students by helping to control the spread of contagious conditions.

The responsibilities and processes outlined in the following procedures apply to the following contagious conditions referred to in the Act:

- coronavirus (COVID-19)
- diphtheria
- enterovirus 71 neurological disease
- gastroenteritis
- haemophilus influenza type b (invasive)
- hepatitis A
- human influenza with pandemic potential
- measles
- meningococcal infection (invasive)
- paratyphoid and typhoid
- pertussis (whooping cough)
- poliomyelitis infection
- rubella
- tuberculosis
- varicella – zoster virus infection (chickenpox).

Legislation

- [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Disability Standards for Education 2005 \(Cwth\)](#)
- [Human Rights Act 2019 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Information Privacy Act 2009 \(Qld\)](#) Schedule 3 Information Privacy Principle 11
- [Public Health Act 2005 \(Qld\)](#) Chapter 5, Parts 1 and Part 2
- [Public Health Regulation 2018 \(Qld\)](#) Part 6, Schedule 4 and Schedule 5
- [Work Health and Safety Act 2011 \(Qld\)](#)

Revision Record

Version	Approval Date	Authorised by	Effective Date	Review Cycle	Next Review
1.00	11 November 2025	Nathan McDonald	13 November 2025	4 years	November 2029

Definitions

Term	Definition
Contagious condition	A medical condition that has been prescribed under the <i>Public Health Regulation 2018 (Qld)</i> , <i>Schedule 4, Part 2</i> because it is considered to be a serious condition that may put the community at some risk. The contagious conditions within the Regulation are – coronavirus, (diphtheria, enterovirus 71 neurological disease, gastroenteritis, haemophilus influenza type b (invasive), hepatitis A, human influenza with pandemic potential, measles, meningococcal infection (invasive), paratyphoid, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis infection, rubella, tuberculosis, typhoid, varicella – zoster virus infection (chickenpox).
Direction	A written or verbal instruction given by a person who is recognised under <i>the Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)</i> as a person with authority to provide the direction (e.g. a Queensland Health Public Health Medical Officer). Directions are given in writing unless it is not practicable to do so.
Health information	Health information is information about a person's health or the provision of a health service to a person.
Measles	Measles is an acute, highly infectious illness caused by the measles virus. It can cause serious complications such as pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). Due to its highly infectious nature, measles is the only vaccine-preventable contagious condition that has a prescribed period of removal from College for both a student suspected of having the condition and a student suspected of not being vaccinated (under Schedule 4, Part 2 and Part 3 of the Public Health Regulation 2005 (Qld)).
Medical practitioner	A doctor registered with the Medical Board of Australia through the Register of Practitioners, Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
Period of removal	See 'prescribed period'.
Personal information	Personal information means information or an opinion, whether true or not, about an individual whose identity is apparent, or can be reasonably ascertained, from the information or opinion.
Prescribed period	For the purposes of this procedure, a prescribed period is the period of removal from College prescribed under Schedule 4, Part 2 of the Regulation for students suspected of having a contagious condition or under Schedule 4, Part 3 of the Regulation for unvaccinated students at risk because they may be in contact with a student with a vaccine-preventable condition. Colleges can refer to Queensland Health's <i>Time Out</i> poster. This poster specifies the minimum period of removal from College for some medical conditions including, but not limited to, contagious conditions defined in this procedure.
Public health emergency	As per <i>Chapter 8, Part 1 of the Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)</i> , a public health emergency is an event or a series of events that has contributed to, or may contribute to, serious adverse effects on the health of persons in Queensland.
Public Health Medical Officer (PHMO)	For the purpose of this procedure, a PHMO is a medical practitioner working in a Public Health Unit or the Communicable Diseases Branch who has delegated authority from the chief executive (Director-General or their delegate, Queensland Health), to discharge duties of the Public Health Act 2005 (Qld) related to this procedure. This includes Public Health Physicians, Public Health Registrars and other registered medical practitioners holding delegated authority from the chief executive.
Public Health Unit (PHU)	PHUs within Queensland Health focus on protecting health; preventing disease, outbreaks, illness and injury; and promoting health and wellbeing at a population or whole of community level. They are located within various Hospital and Health Services across Queensland. Key activities for PHU's include; disease control, environmental health, public health programs, administering immunisation and vaccination programs.
Immunisation - Unvaccinated student	For the purposes of this procedure, an unvaccinated student is one who has not been immunised against vaccine-preventable conditions. To determine which students at the College are unvaccinated or have no record of being vaccinated, the PHU can access vaccination records held on the Australian Immunisation Register. This is a national register that records all vaccines given to people in Australia.
Immunisation - preventable condition	A condition identified in Schedule 5 of the Public Health Regulation 2005 (Qld). The vaccine-preventable conditions within the Regulation are – diphtheria, haemophilus influenza type b (invasive) disease, hepatitis B, measles, meningococcal C, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis infection, pneumococcal disease (invasive), rotavirus infection, rubella, tetanus, varicella-zoster virus infection (chickenpox). Measles (under Schedule 4, Part 2 and Part 3 of the Regulation) is the only vaccine-preventable contagious condition that has a prescribed period of removal from College for both a student suspected of having the condition and a student suspected of not being immunised.

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Procedures

If a student is suspected of having, or has, a contagious condition, it is vital that the Principal and college staff take steps to protect the health of the College community in a timely manner.

There are additional actions for the College to follow when there is a suspected or confirmed case of measles (See Section 8 [Manage medical examinations and temporary College closures \(when required\)](#))

This list of contagious conditions (Schedule 4, Part 2 of the Regulation) can change, and it is important to consult with a Public Health Medical Officer (PHMO), of the closest Queensland Health Public Health Unit (PHU) to seek advice:

Closest PHU

Public Health Unit	Address	Phone (general enquiries)	Fax (general enquiries)	Report notifiable conditions
Darling Downs (Toowoomba)	Level 2, 128 Margaret Street Toowoomba Q 4350 PO Box 405, Toowoomba Qld 4350	(07) 4699 8240	(07) 4699 8477	Fax: (07) 4699 8262 Phone general enquiries number.

This procedure outlines the responsibilities and processes (both during and outside College hours) related to:

- a student suspected of having a contagious condition
- a student confirmed with a contagious condition
- managing risks for an unvaccinated student
- the removal from and return to College of a student
- medical examinations of a student at college
- temporary closure of the College.

The Act allows for certain information to be shared between a College and a PHMO (Chapter 5, Part 2, Division 2, s174). College staff involved in the administration of this procedure must not, whether directly or indirectly, disclose confidential information that becomes known to them in the course of performing their duties and functions under this procedure, unless required to do so under this Act or another Act (Chapter 5, Part 2, Division 3 of the Act). [The Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 \(Qld\)](#) (the EGPA) allows students' personal information to be disclosed with another party (e.g. Queensland Health), as permitted or required under another Act.

In the event of a declared public health emergency (e.g. pandemic), the College will follow advice provided by the department in alignment with [Queensland Health Directives](#).

Refer to Queensland Health's [Time Out poster](#) (also on display in Sick Bay) for general advice regarding infectious conditions, including prescribed contagious conditions and periods of exclusion from College.

Refer to Queensland Health's [Information for Colleges, Education and Care Services and Child Care Services Contagious Conditions – Public Health Act 2005 \(Qld\), Chapter 5, Part 2](#) for further information.

Responsibilities

Principal

- implement a local infection control program that minimises the risk of exposure of staff, students and others
- facilitate the management of contagious conditions within the College.
- consult with, and follow directions given by the PHMO, including student attendance, information sharing and other actions to control contagious conditions (e.g. cleaning and disinfecting advice, and the temporary closure of a College).
- consider the language needs of parents/carers and students when providing information to ensure effective engagement and implement reasonable adjustments and/or tailored support (e.g. translated materials and/or literacy support, a telephone call to accompany written communication).
- maintain all documentation regarding the management of a contagious condition

Staff

- communicate, promote and follow infection control procedures.
- do not attend the workplace, and seek own medical advice, if aware or reasonably suspect that they may have a contagious condition.
- advise the Principal if it is known, or reasonably suspected, that a student or staff member may have a contagious condition.
- preserve the privacy and confidentiality of information and documentation about a staff member or student and their family regarding suspected/confirmed contagious conditions.
- take reasonable steps to allow a student (who is subject to a direction to not attend college) to access an educational program for their period of removal.

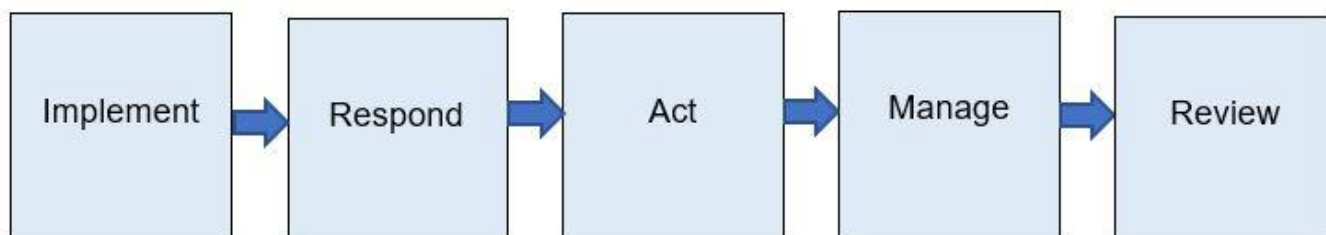
Public Health Medical Officer (or representative)

- provide public health advice to the Principal.
- may instruct the Principal to provide directions to parents/carers about keeping children home from College.
- direct the Principal to minimise the risk of the contagious condition spreading.
- may notify the Principal of a vaccine-preventable contagious condition.
- when necessary, may arrange for medical examinations of students attending the college.

Parents/Carers

- seek and follow medical advice if their child has, or is suspected of having, a contagious condition.
- must not send their child to College if they know, or suspect, their child has a contagious condition.
- not send their child to College during the prescribed period of the contagious condition
- must not send their child to College if they have been given a direction by the principal not to send their child to College.

Process



1. *Implement local infection control program*

Principal

- Implements an infection control program in accordance with advice given by the Public Health Unit and/or the Public Health Medical Officer
- advises staff to safely isolate students who are ill (e.g. in the sick bay/sick room) until collected by the parent/carer
- advises staff to implement strategies to assist students vulnerable with pre-existing health conditions and/or disability (where required) to understand and comply with the isolation process (e.g. arrange for trusted staff member to support the student while they are in the sick bay).

2. *Response to public health incidents during College hours*

Principal

- ensures staff are familiar with the processes necessary to manage contagious conditions, and the Queensland Health fact sheets on [contagious conditions](#) and the [Act](#) for further information about the legal framework for managing contagious conditions.
- notifies leadership about public health incidents at the College
- advises staff not to attend the workplace if they are unwell, and/or reasonably suspect or know, they have a contagious condition, which includes:
 - College staff are aware of infectious diseases for which personal immunity has been established (e.g. via previous exposure and/or vaccination)
 - College staff are asked to seek medical advice from their medical practitioner regarding infection control and the impact of exposure to the contagious condition
- directs College staff not to return to work until cleared of a contagious condition by their doctor or by PHMO (a medical clearance certificate may be required as evidence)
- advises parents/carers not to send their child to College if they are unwell, or have or are suspected of having a contagious condition, or with pre-existing medical conditions for whom exposure may be serious
- sends out Queensland Health information to parents/carers about preventing contagious conditions when requested (e.g. email).

3. *Actions if a student is suspected of having a contagious condition*

Staff

- advise the Principal if it is known, or reasonably suspected, that a student may have a contagious condition. Refer to Qld Health [communicable disease control guidance](#) for symptoms of contagious conditions.
- preserve privacy and confidentiality of information about a student and their family.

Principal (or nominated person)

- ensures the parent/carer is contacted to collect the student
- ensures the student is safely isolated as much as possible from other students and staff (e.g. in the sick bay) until collected by their parent/carer
- advises the parent/carer of the student with the suspected contagious condition to seek medical advice to either confirm the contagious condition or provide medical certification that the student does not have the contagious condition
- notifies the parent/carer of their legal obligation to observe the prescribed period of removal from College if the condition is medically confirmed (refer to Queensland Health's [Time Out poster](#) for minimum exclusion periods)
- ensures this advice to the parent/carer is noted as a record of contact in Edumate
- stays in contact with the local PHU for general advice on the contagious condition and strategies to manage the condition (e.g. communication to College community, if additional infection control measures are required)
- when requested, provides the PHMO with personal information about the contact the student has had with other students attending the College. This information would include their names, dates of birth, addresses, parent/carer contact details, as well as their places of birth if available
- keeps a record of all student information disclosed to the PHMO as a record of contact in Edumate.

Principal and staff

- communicate, promote and follow standard infection control practices, including additional infection control measures as directed by the PHU.

4. *Actions if a student is medically confirmed to have a contagious condition*

Principal

- contacts the local PHU for specific advice to manage the condition (e.g. communication to College community, infection control measures, actions for unvaccinated students)
- follows any direction from the PHMO which minimises the risk to students and staff at the College of contracting the contagious condition, including temporary closure of the College.

PHMO

- may give a written direction to the principal on ways to minimise the risk of students and staff contracting the contagious condition (e.g. limiting the sharing of eating utensils, disinfection measures, cleaning procedures, provision of health information to treat and prevent its spread).

5. *Actions to remove a student from the College suspected or confirmed as having a contagious condition*

If a student suspected or confirmed as having a contagious condition continues to attend the College, or the parent/carer advises that they intend to send the student to college:

Principal

- seeks advice from the PHMO to determine if the parent/carer should be directed to remove the student from College and not send them to College during the prescribed period
- directs the parent/carer to remove the student from College and not to send the student to College during the prescribed period:
 - when advised by the PHMO, by using the [Direction to parent/carer not to send child to College letter](#)
 - when advised by the PHMO following their medical examination of students, by using the [Direction to parent/carer not to send child to College – PHMO medical examination letter](#)
- ensures written records of all advice given and received regarding the contagious condition and the prescribed period of removal from College is recorded in Edumate

- notes that an [exemption](#) from the legal requirement to attend College is not required as the direction relieves the parent of their legal obligation to ensure College attendance
- takes reasonable steps to allow the student who is subject to a direction to not attend College to access an educational program for the period of removal.

6. [Actions for a student to return to college before the prescribed period ends](#)

Principal

- allows a student suspected of, or confirmed as having, a contagious condition to return if they have a medical practitioner's certificate stating that:
 - the student does not have the condition; or
 - the prescribed period for the condition has ended.

7. [Manage risks for non-immunised students](#)

Principal

- seeks advice from the PHMO about students who are not immunised for a vaccine-preventable condition and may be at-risk of contracting the condition if they continue to attend college
- if requested, provides the PHMO with a list of students who have been in contact with the student suspected of having the vaccine-preventable condition, to assist them identify which students are suspected of not being immunised (NOTE: this can be done by generating Edumate Student and Parent and Contact Details for the Queensland Health report)
- advises parents/carers of non-immunised students of the risk to their child contracting the condition if they continue to attend college
- advises parents of the prescribed period for non-attendance
 - When advised by the PHMO by using the [Direction to parent/carers of unvaccinated child](#)
- communicates to staff members assigned to attendance roll marking data entry to create an 'event' roll in Edumate to identify students affected during the period of removal, which will avoid them from being marked as absent.
- takes reasonable steps to allow the non-immunised student to access an educational program for the period of non-attendance
- ensures this advice to the parent/carers is noted as a record of contact in Edumate
- follows the advice of the PHMO to manage the risks associated with the vaccine-preventable condition.

Refer to [APPENDIX 2 - Student attendance exemption legislation excerpt](#)

Additional actions for measles only

Principal

- seeks advice from the PHMO if a non-immunised student continues to attend the College or the parent/carers advises that they still intend to send the student to college to determine if the non-immunised student needs to be removed from the College setting for their own health and safety
- if advised by the PHMO, uses the Direction to parent/carers of non-immunised child letter to direct the parent/carers to remove the student from college and not to send the student to college during the prescribed period
- takes reasonable steps to allow the non-immunised student subject to a direction to not attend college to access an educational program for the period of removal
- keeps a record of all student information disclosed to the PHMO as a record of contact in Edumate

- communicates to staff members assigned to attendance roll marking data entry to create an 'event' roll in Edumate to identify students affected during the period of removal, which will avoid them from being marked as absent.
- notes that an exemption from the legal requirement to attend College is not required as the direction relieves the parent of their legal obligation to ensure College attendance
- allows a student suspected of not being vaccinated to return when satisfied:
 - that the student is no longer at risk of contracting the condition; or
 - the student has met the prescribed period for the contagious condition; or
 - at the direction of the PHMO.

8. *Manage medical examinations and temporary College closures (when required)*

Medical examinations - if the PHMO reasonably suspects some or all students attending the College have, or may have, a contagious condition.

PHMO

- consults the principal to arrange for a medical practitioner to examine some or all the students attending the College
- provides notice to the Principal of:
 - the date and time of the examination/s
 - the contagious condition for which examinations are to be conducted
 - the student/s, or class of students, to be examined
 - the name and contact details of the medical practitioner who is to conduct the examination/s.
- advises the parent/carer of the student/s:
 - of the date and time of the examination
 - of the contagious condition for which the examination is to be conducted
 - of the name and contact details of the medical practitioner who is to conduct the examination
 - that the student's parent/carer may be present
 - that the examination cannot take place without the consent of the parent/carer
 - that, as an alternative, a parent/carer can have a student examined by another medical practitioner and provide a medical certificate to the principal stating whether the student has the contagious condition and if so, whether the recommended period of removal from College has ended
- may direct that the Principal directs a parent/carer to remove their child from College, and not send them to College if:
 - their child has not been vaccinated and may be at risk of contracting the condition; or
 - the student suspected of having the contagious condition has not been examined by a medical practitioner, or the examination reveals that the student has, or may have, a contagious condition.

Principal

- allows the PHMO to conduct medical examinations at the College when:
 - appropriate details have been provided by the PHMO to the College and to the parents/carers
 - parent/carer consent has been obtained by the PHMO
- follows relevant actions set out in sections 5, 6 or 7 above based on the PHMO advice following medical examinations.

Temporary College closures

The Minister for Health, in consultation with the Minister for Education

- orders the closure of a College for a period of not more than one month if satisfied that:
 - there is an outbreak of a contagious condition at a College or in the immediate community that puts the staff and students at significant risk of contracting the condition; and
 - methods of controlling the outbreak will not be effective without temporarily closing the College.

Principal

- complies with all written notices made by the Minister for Health to close the College in the interest of public health.

9. *Review location infection control measures*

Principal:

- regularly reviews infection control measures to ensure they are providing an adequate level of safety as per Qld Education [Infection control procedure](#) and the [Infection control guideline](#), including post-management of a contagious condition incident.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – Supporting information

Supporting information for this procedure

- Letter template – Direction to parent/carer not to send child to College
- Letter template – Direction to parent/carer of unvaccinated child
- Letter template – Direction to parent/carer not to send child to College – PHMO advice

Admin staff link to letters [Contagious Conditions Management](#)

Other resources

- [Infection control procedure](#) - Dept of Education Qld
- [Infection control guideline](#) - Dept of Education Qld
- [Public Health Units](#)

Queensland Health Factsheets

- [Public Health Act 2005 \(Qld\) Contagious Conditions Factsheet for Colleges and Education and Care Services](#)
- [Information for Colleges, Education and Care Services and Child Care Services Contagious Conditions – Public Health Act 2005 \(Qld\), Chapter 5, Part 2](#)
- [Communicable disease factsheets](#)
- [Time out poster](#)
- [Time Out brochure – Information for parents about infectious diseases and exclusion periods in Queensland early childhood education centres and Colleges](#)

APPENDIX 2 - Student attendance exemption legislation excerpt

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006

Chapter 9 > Part 1 > Division 1 > Section 176

176 Obligation of each parent

(1) Each parent of a child who is of compulsory College age must—

(a) ensure the child is enrolled at a State College or non-State College; and

(b) ensure the child attends the State College or non-State College, on every College day, for the educational program in which the child is enrolled;

unless the parent has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—

(a) for a first offence—6 penalty units; or

(b) for a second or subsequent offence, whether or not relating to the same child of the parent—12 penalty units.

Chapter 9 > Part 4 > Section 202

202 Infectious or contagious disease or condition

[Section 176](#)(1)(b) does not apply to a child who is prevented from attending College because the child is, or is a member of a class of persons that is, subject to a direction given, or declaration, order or requirement made, under an Act or other law about an infectious or contagious disease or condition.



<Date>

<Parent/Carer Name>

<Address>

<SUBURB QLD 4xxx>

Dear <name of parent/carers>

Direction by Public Health Medical Officer under the *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*

On <date>, I was advised by <insert name>, the Public Health Medical Officer (PHMO), pursuant to s.169(2) of the *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*, to direct you to remove <student's name> from school.

This direction is being given because: <Select option a, b, c or d>.

- a. Dr <insert name> conducted an examination of your child at school and has advised that your child has or may have <insert name of contagious condition>, and the prescribed period for this condition has not ended.
- b. <Student's name> was not examined by a doctor arranged by the PHMO or by a doctor of your choice, and you have not provided a certificate stating that your child <student's name> does not have <insert contagious condition>, and the prescribed period for this condition has not ended.
- c. The PHMO reasonably suspects that <student's name> has, or may have, <insert name of contagious condition> and the prescribed period for the condition has not ended.
- d. The PHMO reasonably suspects that <student's name> has not been vaccinated for a vaccine preventable condition, and will be at risk of contracting the condition if they continue to attend the school.

<Student's name> may not return to school before <insert date as advised by the PHMO>. This measure is intended to protect your child and other students from becoming infected and to prevent further spread of the condition within the school community.

If you choose to have <student's name> examined by a doctor arranged by the PHMO or by a doctor of your choice, and you can provide a certificate stating that <student's name> does not have <insert contagious condition>, please contact the school as soon as possible to allow this information to be reviewed.

I have attached a copy of the advice received from the Public Health Unit and further information they provided on the contagious condition <remove if written advice not provided>, and a copy of the relevant provisions of the Act and the Regulation.

To discuss the options available for <student's name> to access an educational program while they are subject to this direction, and not attending school, please contact me on <contact details>.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Enc. (Public Health Unit advice) <remove if written advice not provided>
(s. 169 *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*)



Extract from *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)

s. 169 Chief executive may direct person in charge in relation to child

(1) This section applies if—

(a) a doctor who examines a child under [section 167](#) attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service advises the chief executive that—

- (i) the child has, or may have, a contagious condition; and
- (ii) the prescribed period for the condition has not ended; or

(b) a parent of a child has been advised under [section 168](#) but the child has not been examined—

- (i) by the doctor arranged by the chief executive; or
- (ii) by another doctor chosen by the parent and a certificate provided by that doctor stating that the child does not have the contagious condition or the prescribed period for the condition has ended; or

(c) the chief executive reasonably suspects that a child attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service has, or may have, a contagious condition and the prescribed period for the condition has not ended; or

(d) the chief executive reasonably suspects that a child attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service—

- (i) has not been vaccinated for a vaccine preventable condition; and
- (ii) will be at risk of contracting the condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The chief executive may direct the person in charge of the school, education and care service or QEC approved service to direct the parent of the child to remove the child from, and not to send the child to, the school or service for the prescribed period for the condition.

(3) If directed by the chief executive under subsection (2), the person in charge of the school, education and care service or QEC approved service must comply with the direction, unless the person in charge has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

(4) A direction by the chief executive under subsection (2)—

- (a) must be given in writing, if practicable; and
- (b) must include the information mentioned in [section 170\(2\)](#).

(5) If it is not practicable to give the direction in writing, the chief executive may give the direction orally but must confirm it in writing as soon as practicable thereafter.



<Date>

<Parent/Carer Name>

<Address>

<SUBURB QLD 4xxx>

Dear <name of parent/carers>

Contagious Conditions under the *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*

On <date> I advised you of my suspicion that <student's name> has <condition>, a contagious condition, and that other students attending <name of school> may be at risk of contracting this condition.

I also advised you of your obligation under section 161(1)(a) and (2) of the *Public Health Act 2005* (the Act) not to send your child to school if you know, or ought reasonably to know, that your child has a contagious condition.

Despite my advice to you, <student's name> continues to attend OR you have told me that <student's name> will continue to attend the school.

I have consulted with the <location> Public Health Unit which advises that <e.g. a child with the suspected contagious condition should be removed from the school as soon as reasonably practicable and is not to return to school until they have a medical practitioner's certificate stating that they do not have the condition, or the prescribed period for the condition in the *Public Health Regulation 2018 (Qld)* (the Regulation) has ended.>

You have not provided the school with a medical certificate stating that your child does not have the contagious condition.

Therefore, pursuant to s.164 of the Act, I hereby direct you to remove <student's name> from school. They must not return to school during the prescribed period for the condition. This period ends <specify when end of period conditions>.

I have attached a copy of the advice received from the Public Health Unit and further information they provided on the contagious condition <remove if written advice not provided>, and a copy of the relevant provisions of the Act and the Regulation.

To discuss the options available for <student's name> to access an educational program while they are subject to this direction, and not attending school, please contact me on <contact details>.

I wish <child's name> a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them again at the end of the prescribed period of absence.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Enc. (Public Health Unit advice) <remove if written advice not provided>
(ss. 161, 163, 164 *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*)
(Schedule 4 Part 2 *Public Health Regulation 2018 (Qld)*)



s. 169 Chief executive may direct person in charge in relation to child

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) a doctor who examines a child under [section 167](#) attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service advises the chief executive that—
 - (i) the child has, or may have, a contagious condition; and
 - (ii) the prescribed period for the condition has not ended; or
- (b) a parent of a child has been advised under [section 168](#) but the child has not been examined—
 - (i) by the doctor arranged by the chief executive; or
 - (ii) by another doctor chosen by the parent and a certificate provided by that doctor stating that the child does not have the contagious condition or the prescribed period for the condition has ended; or
- (c) the chief executive reasonably suspects that a child attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service has, or may have, a contagious condition and the prescribed period for the condition has not ended; or
- (d) the chief executive reasonably suspects that a child attending a school, education and care service or QEC approved service—
 - (i) has not been vaccinated for a vaccine preventable condition; and
 - (ii) will be at risk of contracting the condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The chief executive may direct the person in charge of the school, education and care service or QEC approved service to direct the parent of the child to remove the child from, and not to send the child to, the school or service for the prescribed period for the condition.

(3) If directed by the chief executive under subsection (2), the person in charge of the school, education and care service or QEC approved service must comply with the direction, unless the person in charge has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

(4) A direction by the chief executive under subsection (2)—

- (a) must be given in writing, if practicable; and
- (b) must include the information mentioned in [section 170\(2\)](#).

(5) If it is not practicable to give the direction in writing, the chief executive may give the direction orally but must confirm it in writing as soon as practicable thereafter.

Extract from Public Health Regulation 2018 (Qld) – Schedule 4, Contagious conditions

Part 2 Prescribed period for contagious condition for child suspected of having condition

(School to add relevant content in a three column table with headings, in keeping with the format of Part 2, Schedule 4 at <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2018-0117#sch.4-pt.2>)

e.g.

Contagious condition	Start of period	End of period
pertussis	the earlier of the following— (a) the onset of symptoms; (b) the child has relevant contact with a person infected with the condition	either— (a) if the child has had symptoms—the treating doctor confirms the child is not infectious, but not earlier than— (i) 5 days after the child starts a course of an appropriate antibiotic; or (ii) if the child has an onset of paroxysmal coughing caused by the condition—14 days after the onset of the coughing; or (iii) otherwise—21 days after the onset of coughing that is not paroxysmal coughing; or (b) otherwise—the earlier of the following— (i) the treating doctor confirms the child is not infectious but not earlier than 14 days after the relevant contact; (ii) the chief executive advises a parent of the child that the chief executive is satisfied the risk of the child transmitting the condition is low



<Date>

<Parent/Carer Name>

<Address>

<SUBURB QLD 4xxx>

Dear <name of parent/carers>

Unvaccinated Children and Vaccine Preventable Contagious Conditions under the *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*

I advised you on <insert date> that I reasonably suspect that <student's name> has not been vaccinated against measles, and that they may be at risk of contracting this contagious condition if they continue to attend <name of school>, as there is another student at the school who has been confirmed with measles.

Despite my advice to you, you have continued to send <student's name> to school.

You have not provided me with a certificate from a doctor stating that your child has been vaccinated against measles and therefore will not be at risk of contracting measles if they continue to attend.

I have been advised by the <location> Public Health Unit that they have no record indicating <student's name> has been immunised for measles and consequently they may be at risk of contracting measles.

The <location Public Health Unit OR <name>, a doctor authorised by the Public Health Medical Officer>> also advised that any unvaccinated children who may have had contact with the student with measles should be removed from the school and not return until the outbreak of measles is over, or they have met the prescribed period, or the Public Health Unit is satisfied that the risk of an unvaccinated child contracting measles is low.

Therefore, in accordance with s.166 of the Act, I direct you to remove <student's name> from the school for the prescribed period for measles. They may not return to school before <insert date as advised by the PHMO>. This measure is intended to protect your child and other unvaccinated children from becoming infected and to prevent further spread of the condition within the school community.

I have attached a copy of the Public Health Unit's advice and further information on this contagious condition as provided to me by the Public Health Unit <remove if written advice not provided>, and a copy of the relevant provisions of the Act and the Regulation.

If you have vaccination records indicating that <student's name> has had the relevant vaccinations or you choose to vaccinate them during this outbreak, please contact the school as soon as possible to allow this information to be reviewed.

If you think <student's name> may have developed measles, I recommend you seek medical advice as soon as possible. Please advise the medical practice before your visit that the condition may be contagious. You can also contact your local Public Health Unit who can provide you with further advice.



To discuss the options available for <student's name> to access an educational program while they are subject to this direction and not attending school, please contact me on <contact details>.

I look forward to seeing <student's name> again on their return to school.

Yours sincerely

Principal
School name

Enc. (Public Health Unit advice) <remove if written advice not provided>
(ss. 165, 166 *Public Health Act 2005*)
(Schedule 4 Part 3 Public Health Regulation 2018)



Extracts from *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)*

s.165 Person in charge may advise parent of child not vaccinated about suspicion of vaccine preventable condition

(1) This section applies if the person in charge of a school, education and care service or QEC approved service reasonably suspects that a child attending the school or service—

- (a) has not been vaccinated for a vaccine preventable condition; and
- (b) may be at risk of contracting the condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The person in charge may advise at least 1 of the child's parents of the suspicion.

s.166 Person in charge may direct parent not to send child to school, education and care service or QEC approved service

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) a person in charge of a school, education and care service or QEC approved service has advised a parent under section 165(2) about the parent's child; and
- (b) the child continues to attend the school or service or the parent tells the person in charge that the parent's child will continue to attend the school or service; and
- (c) the person in charge reasonably suspects that the child will be at risk of contracting the contagious condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The person in charge may direct the parent—

- (a) to remove the child from the school, education and care service or QEC approved service as soon as reasonably practicable; and
- (b) not to send the child to the school or service during the prescribed period for the condition applying to the child.

(3) However, the person in charge must consult a doctor or another person authorised by the chief executive for advice before taking action under subsection (2).



Extracts from *Public Health Regulation 2018 (Qld)*

Schedule 4 Part 3 Prescribed period for contagious condition for child suspected of not being vaccinated

Contagious condition	Start of period	End of period
Measles	the chief executive gives a direction there is an outbreak of the condition at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service attended by the child	the earlier of the following— (a) if the child is not vaccinated—the chief executive gives a direction that the outbreak of the condition at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service is over; (b) if the child is vaccinated during the outbreak—the chief executive advises a parent of the child that the chief executive is satisfied the risk of the child contracting the condition is low
	the chief executive gives a direction there is an outbreak of the condition in the community, if there is a risk of children and staff at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service attended by the child contracting the condition	the chief executive advises a parent of the child that the chief executive is satisfied the risk of the child contracting the condition is low