Impetigo Illness Notification Recommendations

The verbiage below can be used to notify parents of *two or more cases of impetigo in a classroom*. Include this fact sheet with the notification: milivcounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/Impetigo.pdf.

School Name: (Include school name here)
Classroom: (Include classroom name here)

Date: (Include date here)

Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

Several students in your child's classroom have been diagnosed with Impetigo.

About Impetigo:
Impetigo is an infection caused by bacteria that gets into the skin. The infection can cause red bumps that release golden-yellow pus. The pus can dry, crust, or stick to the skin.

Impetigo spreads from person to person through direct contact with infected skin or other items such as clothing and towels. It spreads to other parts of the body by scratching the blisters and touching other parts of the body.

Symptoms include red, itchy sores that break open and leak a clear fluid or pus for a few days. The sores often appear as clusters of blisters or moist, red bumps on the face around the nose, mouth, and parts of skin not covered by clothing. Children with symptoms of impetigo should stay home from school until 24 hours after the start of treatment.

Next Steps for Your Family:
Watch your child for symptoms of impetigo for the next 10 days. Seek treatment from a healthcare provider if your child has any symptoms.

Tips to Prevent and Control Impetigo:

- Infected children should stay home from school until 24 hours after the start of treatment with an antibiotic. This may be a skin ointment, or a medication taken by mouth.
- Encourage good hand hygiene. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Wash toys, floors, and other surfaces where children may play with a bleach solution made fresh daily of 1 tablespoon bleach to 1 gallon of water.
- Clean other surfaces with soap and water. Then use a store-bought disinfectant or homemade solution, being sure to leave disinfectant on the surface for one minute before wiping dry. To make a homemade disinfectant solution: combine 1 gallon of water with 1/3 cup household bleach.
- Wash and dry clothing, linens, towels, and soft toys at the highest temperature recommended for the fabric.
- Read When and How to Clean/Disinfect Your Home.

If you have any questions, contact your healthcare provider or Livingston County Health Department at 517-546-6882.