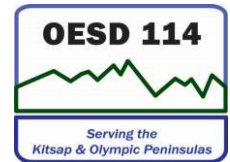




Olympic Educational Service District 114

105 National Avenue North, Bremerton, Washington 98312
(360) 478-6887 • 1-800-201-1300 • FAX (360) 405-5808



OESD Head Start / ECEAP / Early Head Start EXPOSURE NOTICE

Date:

To: All Parents

From: Your Child's Classroom

Subject: **STAPH OR MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus)**

Your child may have been exposed to Staph or MRSA. Please watch for signs of it including:

Appearance: Skin infections that look like pimples, boils or spider bites. Infected skin can be red, swollen, painful and have pus or other drainage. Fever with these symptoms can indicate a more serious infection.

Cause: Staph (Staphylococcus aureus) bacteria. MRSA is a Staph infection that may be more difficult to treat.

Spread: Skin to skin contact with an infected person or items or surfaces that have come into contact with an infected person. Staph or MRSA can enter the body through cuts or scrapes in the skin.

Treatment: Follow doctor's recommendation. Treatment varies, but may include antibiotic medication, IV medication, draining of wound or hospitalization. Early treatment may minimize the seriousness of the infection. If you have concerns regarding MRSA, consult a health care provider immediately.

Return to Class: Follow doctor's recommendations. Child may return to class if infected skin is completely covered at all times with a clean, dry bandage, does not have other symptoms such as a fever that would require exclusion and antibiotics (if prescribed) have been taken for at least 24 hours. Please note that classroom staff may not change bandages. If bandage falls *off* during class time, the child will be separated from the group and a parent/guardian must be called to replace the bandage or take the child home.

If you have questions, please contact your classroom's Family/Health Advocate, the Health Program Manager 360-478-6878, or Kitsap Public Health District Communicable Disease Nurses at 360-728-2235.

If staff have concerns about a child's ability to safely return to class, we reserve the right to request a note from the child's health care provider.
