**LOSD Communicable Disease Management Plan**

The purpose of this plan is to provide infection control guidance and practice procedures.

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<th>Communicable Disease Guidelines, Policies, and Plans</th>
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**Communicable Disease Prevention**

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<th>How Communicable Disease is Spread</th>
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Communicable diseases are illnesses that are spread from one person to another or from an animal to a person. Some of the ways they may spread are through:

1. Direct physical contact with an infected person (or their blood, body fluids, or respiratory droplets),
2. Breathing in airborne pathogens (bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms that can cause disease),
3. Contact with a contaminated surface or object (including food or water),
4. Bites from insects or animals that can transmit a disease.

Reducing exposure to communicable disease at school involves prevention measures, infection control practices, and reporting.
### Communicable Disease Prevention Measures at School

#### Stay home when ill:
1. Monitor health daily, be alert for illness symptoms; such as, fever over 100.4°F, cough, difficulty breathing, skin rash, diarrhea, vomiting, headache, jaundice (yellowing of skin or eyes), eyes that are red or have colored drainage.
2. If ill, contact a healthcare provider for guidance. Maintain distance from others if ill or caring for someone who is ill.
3. At school, isolate people with signs or symptoms of communicable disease.

#### Immunizations
Immunizations. Keep up to date on required and recommended immunizations. Vaccines reduce the risk of infection by working with the body’s natural defenses to help safely develop immunity to disease. Immunizations are required for attending school in Oregon, except in those cases where there is a medical or a non-medical exemption. [Oregon Immunization Requirements for School](#)

#### Food safety
Foodborne illnesses occur as a result of eating food that has been improperly handled, prepared, or stored.
1. Practice effective handwashing, store food properly.
2. Students should not share food.
3. Only commercially prepared and packaged foods can be brought to school for classroom celebrations.
4. Follow [OHA Food Safety](#) guidelines for food that is prepared/provided at school.

#### Water safety
Water-related illnesses are caused by germs that live in fountains, spas, pools, rivers, lakes, and other bodies of water. A person can get a water-related illness by swallowing contaminated water, breathing mists, or by other contact with bodies of water.
1. Maintain access to clean drinking water. [OHA Drinking Water Regulations and Rules](#). Drinking fountains should be cleaned and sanitized, but encourage staff and students to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains. [CDC Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation](#)
2. Wash hands before preparing water for classroom activity, and after conclusion of the activity and activity clean up.
3. Do not go in pools or other bodies of water when ill (or recently ill) with diarrheal illness.
4. Shower with soap before and after entering recreational waters.
5. Do not swallow water in pools or other bodies of water.

#### Animals in school can provide a learning experience for students
It is important to make sure that students stay safe and healthy while they’re learning. [CDC Animals in Schools](#)

### How to prevent disease from spreading in the classroom:
1. Do not bring reptiles, amphibians, poultry, rodents, or ferrets into schools with children under 5 years of age.
2. Adults should always supervise children’s contact with animals.
3. Create specific areas for interaction with animals. Do not allow animals to roam freely around the classroom, especially in areas where food or drink is
prepared, served, or eaten.
4. Do not dissect animals or other animal products where food for people is prepared, served, or eaten. Thoroughly clean and disinfect surfaces used for dissection.
5. Consult with parents to determine special considerations for children who have allergies, asthma, or other illnesses.
6. Students should wash their hands with water and soap right after handling animals, their food, or their habitats. Use hand sanitizer if running water and soap are not available. If you only use hand sanitizer, be sure to wash hands with soap and water as soon as possible.
7. Clean and disinfect all areas where animals have been.
8. Do not clean tanks, feeders, water containers, and other equipment in sinks or areas where food is prepared, served, or eaten.

| Check that animals are healthy before bringing them into school. | Animals can look clean and healthy and still spread germs. Make sure all animals have appropriate and regular veterinary care, and proof of rabies vaccination for dogs and cats, according to local or state requirements. |
| If an animal is ill: | 1. Do not allow an ill animal on school premises. |
| 2. If an animal becomes ill at school, remove the animal. |
| If an animal bites someone: | 1. Wash wounds with warm soapy water immediately. |
| 2. Seek medical attention if: | a. The animal appears sick. |
| b. You don’t know if the animal has been vaccinated against rabies. |
| c. The wound is serious. |
| d. The wound becomes red, painful, warm or swollen. |
| e. It has been more than 5 years since the person had their last tetanus shot. |
| 3. Report any animal bites on school premises to the LPHA. |

**Animal Bites and Rabies.** OHA Rabies/Animal Bites. Rabies is a viral disease affecting the central nervous system. It is transmitted from infected mammals to humans. Exposure is usually through bites and the saliva of an infected animal in contact with broken skin.

### Infection Control Practices at School

| **Standard Precautions** | are minimum infection control practices that apply to all people, regardless of suspected or confirmed infection status. CDC Standard Precautions |

**Wash hands.** *Handwashing is one of the most important disease prevention measures at school.* Hands should be washed often for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water. If soap and warm water are not readily available, hand sanitizer (with 60-95% alcohol content) may be used. Sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in many situations, but they do not get rid of all types of germs and they may not be as effective when hands are visibly dirty or greasy.

CDC Handwashing should be done:
- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- Before touching eyes, nose, or mouth
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who used the toilet
- After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- After handling pet food or pet treats
- After touching garbage
- After being in a public place and touching frequently touched surfaces

**How to wash your hands**

1. Wet hands
2. Apply soap
3. Rub hands palm to palm
4. Lather the backs of your hands
5. Scrub between your fingers
6. Rub the backs of fingers on the opposing palms
7. Clean thumbs
8. Wash fingernails and fingertips
9. Rinse hands
10. Dry with a single use towel
11. Use the towel to turn off the faucet
12. Your hands are clean

[Use the same process (steps 1-8) for applying hand sanitizing gel.]

**Cover cough and sneeze.** Cover mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Put used tissue in the wastebasket. If there is no tissue, cough or sneeze into the upper sleeve or elbow, not hands. A face covering may be needed to help protect others. [CDC Coughs and Sneezes](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cough-sneeze-cover.html).
Cleaning. **Clean and disinfect** frequently touched surfaces and shared objects at least daily and more often as needed. This may include playground equipment, door handles, computer keyboards, drinking fountains, faucets, etc. Use an EPA-registered disinfectant and apply it safely and correctly following manufacturer specifications.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**

1. According to Universal Precautions, treat all human blood and some body fluids as potentially infectious. According to Standard Precautions, avoid contact with all body fluids.
2. When needed, use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) barriers such as gloves, face masks, face shields or goggles, and gowns.
   a. A **surgical mask** is a loose-fitting, disposable device that creates a physical barrier between the mouth and nose of the wearer and potential contaminants in the immediate environment. These are often referred to as face masks, although not all face masks are regulated as surgical masks. Note that the edges of the mask are not designed to form a seal around the nose and mouth.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exposure to possible infectious agents:</th>
<th>PPE:</th>
<th>Order to put on PPE</th>
<th>Order to take off PPE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you have to touch it</td>
<td>Wear gloves</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you could breathe it in (droplets or airborne particles)</td>
<td>Wear a face mask</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If it could splash in your face</td>
<td>Wear a face shield or goggles</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If it could splash on your clothes</td>
<td>Wear a gown</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have to do rescue breaths in CPR</td>
<td>Use a resuscitation mask/shield</td>
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Sharps Safety. [OHA Safe Injections. CDC Injection Safety.](#) As defined by the World Health Organization, a safe injection does not harm the recipient, does not expose the provider to any avoidable risks, and does not result in waste that is dangerous for the community.

1. One needle (sharp), one person, one time. Insulin pens and other medication cartridges and syringes are for single-patient-use only and should never be used for more than one person.
2. Whenever possible, blood glucose meters should not be shared. If they must be shared, the device should be cleaned and disinfected after every use, per manufacturer’s instructions. Fingerstick devices should never be used for more than one person.
3. Do not recap needles.
4. Appropriately dispose of used needles in sharps biohazard container.

| Transmission-based precautions are used in addition to standard precautions for people with certain infectious diseases that can be transmitted by contact, droplet, or airborne route. [CDC Transmission-Based Precautions.](#) 
| NOTE: At school, a health room is a room where an ill person can be isolated, if needed. |

**Contact Precautions (transmission by contact with an infected area or body fluid):**

1. Ensure appropriate placement of ill person. Person to be directed to the health room as soon as possible. The person is to remain in the health room while awaiting further assessment and/or transportation from school.
2. Use PPE appropriately, including gloves/gown, if the person requires direct care. For example, wear gloves if cleaning and bandaging an open wound.
3. Limit transport and movement of the person outside of the room.
4. Prioritize cleaning and disinfection of the health room after each use.

**Droplet Precautions (transmission by respiratory droplet that are generated by a person coughing, sneezing, or talking):**

1. Place a face mask on the ill person.
2. Ensure appropriate placement of ill person. Person to be directed to the health room as soon as possible. The person is to remain in the health room while awaiting further assessment and/or transportation from school.
3. Use PPE appropriately, including face mask, if the person requires direct care. For example, wear a face mask if an ill person is coughing.
4. Limit transport and movement of the person outside of the room.
5. Prioritize cleaning and disinfection of the health room after each use.

**Airborne Precautions (transmission by airborne particles):**

1. Place a face mask on the ill person.
2. Ensure appropriate placement of ill person. Person to be directed to the health room as soon as possible. Isolate person from other students and staff. The person is to remain in the health room while awaiting further assessment and/or transportation from school.
3. Use PPE appropriately, including an N95 fit-tested respirator, if available. If not available, face mask should be worn. For example, wear a face mask if an ill person is suspected to have measles or chickenpox. Be aware of the immunization status of the ill person and the person providing care.
4. Limit transport and movement of the person outside of the room.
5. Prioritize cleaning and disinfection of the health room after each use, increase ventilation as needed.
# Communicable Disease Reporting at School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communicable disease reporting in the school setting may occur for:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. A single significant or uncommon communicable disease that is confirmed in the school setting,</td>
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<td>2. Clusters (2 or more people in the same area at the same time) of diagnoses associated with a communicable disease,</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Significant absenteeism due to similar communicable disease symptoms.</td>
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An outbreak is defined as more cases than expected for a given population and time period.

**OHA Outbreak Investigation.** Outbreak investigation will be done in coordination with the school district administration, the school district nurse, and the Local Public Health Authority (LPHA).

- **Detect:** Monitor symptoms
- **Notify:** LPHA for Lake Oswego School District would be [Clackamas County Public Health (CCPH) Report a Disease](http://www.ccpheo.org/)
- **Specimens:** Encourage ill people to visit their healthcare provider for testing
- **Track:** Log symptom information for students and staff
- **Educate:** Provide information for students, families, and staff
- **Control Measures:** See Communicable Disease Prevention Measures
- **Ending an Outbreak:** Determined by LPHA and specific disease
- **Next Steps:** Immunization or other steps determined by LPHA

**OHA Outbreak Toolkits and Resources for Schools**

1. For Influenza-like Illness (ILI): A suspected outbreak may be considered if there are 20% or more students in the same classroom with ILI, or if more widespread, 20% of the school facility within 72 hours. If fewer than 20% of the students are ill, but some have particularly severe symptoms, contact the LPHA.
2. For Norovirus: Two children in a 25- person classroom with vomiting or diarrhea within one week would be more than expected and must be reported to the LPHA

## Resources

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<tr>
<td><strong>Centers for Disease Control</strong> See various specific CDC webpage links within the plan.</td>
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<td><strong>Oregon Health Authority</strong> and <strong>Oregon Department of Education</strong> See various specific webpage links within the plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Food and Drug Administration</strong> See specific webpage link within the plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molalla River School District Comprehensive Communicable Disease Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Images from Oregon Health Authority, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and Multicare.org.</td>
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