Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child may have recently been exposed to **impetigo**. Impetigo is a common skin infection caused by streptococcal or staphylococcal bacteria.

**What are the symptoms of impetigo?**

Symptoms include small, red pimples or fluid-filled blisters. They are found most often on the face, hands, and feet, but can be anywhere on the body. The sores quickly rupture and ooze then develop a yellow-brown crust after a few days.

**How is impetigo spread?**

Impetigo spreads from person to person by direct contact with the fluid from the blisters or from contaminated surfaces. Germs can enter through broken skin, like cuts or sores.

**How is impetigo diagnosed and treated?**

Please contact your health care provider if your child has red pimples, fluid-filled blisters, or yellow scabs that will not go away. Generally, antibiotics are recommended to prevent spreading impetigo to others.

**How do you control the spread?**

* Hand washing is the most important way to control the spread.
* Clean and sanitize commonly touched surfaces and equipment.
* Wash the child’s clothing and towels daily. Do not share towels.
* Cut nails short to prevent damage from scratching.
* Children with impetigo should be excluded from care until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours.
* Cover draining sores with a clean, dry dressing (bandage or gauze) while the child is in care.

**How do I get more information?**

For more information about impetigo, please contact your health care provider.