



Government of **Western Australia**
WA Country Health Service

Enquiries to :Dr Marisa Gilles contact 0429 086 740

Dr Marisa Gilles
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Thursday, April 05, 2018

Dear Parent,

Pertussis (whooping cough)

We wish to inform you that someone has been diagnosed with Pertussis in your school.

Pertussis is a highly contagious infection. It affects the throat and can cause bouts of coughing, and sometimes breathing difficulties and vomiting. Pertussis can be a very serious infection for small children- less than 2 years of age.

It is important that you observe your child for the symptoms of pertussis over the next three weeks. The illness usually starts with a snuffle or a cold, runny nose, tiredness and sometimes mild fever.

While the pertussis vaccination greatly reduces the risk of the infection, there is still a chance your child could suffer from whooping cough.

If your child develops symptoms, please take them to the doctor as soon as possible. Treating people with antibiotics can stop the spread of further infection if started early.

To further help stop the spread people who have been diagnosed with pertussis should remain at home until they have completed the full course of antibiotics or until after three weeks from the onset of the cough.

For more information please contact the Public Health Unit on ph. 99561978 or Dr Marisa Gilles on 0429 086 740.

Yours sincerely

Dr Marisa Gilles
Public Health Physician

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