



Brighton Primary School & Centre for Deaf Education

3 September 2019

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

One student from our school community has a confirmed case of **Mumps**.

The following information is provided by the Department of Health:

This illness is due to infection with the mumps virus. Symptoms include swelling of the glands on both sides of the face and along the jaw line (swelling and tenderness starts just below and in front of one or both ears) with fever and, headache.

Mumps is spread directly by mucous membrane contact with airborne droplets from the nose and throat. It may be spread indirectly by contact with hands, tissues and other articles soiled by nose and throat discharges. The disease is also spread by direct contact with the saliva of an infected person. Tissues and other objects soiled with nasal secretions should be disposed of appropriately.

The incubation period is 14-25 days between becoming infected and developing symptom (usually 18days)

The infectious period is up to 6 days before swelling of the glands begins and up to nine days after the onset of swelling

Treatment of the symptoms includes giving plenty of fluids. Paracetamol may be given for fever and pain

A person with suspected or confirmed mumps should be excluded from child care, preschool, school for 5 days after the onset of symptoms, or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner).

Confirmation of mumps can be made after clinical examination and by a positive blood test.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Taylor
Deputy Principal