CHICKENPOX

Date:

Dear Parent:

A child at day care has been diagnosed with ***Chickenpox***.
Chickenpox a common childhood infection is highly contagious, but rarely a serious health threat to otherwise healthy people.
Symptoms of fever and skin rash begin 14-21 days after exposure to a contagious person. The skin rash begins as red bumps on the chest, back, underarms, neck and face. These change into blisters and finally form scabs. The blisters come in crops.
Children (and workers) are contagious from a day or two prior to developing the rash until the last crop of blisters has dried into scabs. Children may return to day care or school about seven days after the onset of blisters when all the blisters have scabs. Exposed children without symptoms do not need to stay home unless chickenpox develops.
If your child is taking steroid medication like Cortisone or Prednisone, or has ever been treated for cancer or leukemia, you should immediately seek advice from your physician to see if your child may need special preventative treatment.
If your child develops Chickenpox, you may wish to discuss the illness with your child's physician.

If you have any questions, please call your Health District.