



# Health Alert

## Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

Please be aware we have a confirmed diagnosis of Whooping Cough in your child's classroom. Whooping Cough is a bacterial infection of the respiratory system that causes severe coughing spells.

### Symptoms

- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Mild cough
- Low-grade fever

Coughing may progress to more severe coughing spells which may cause:

- Vomiting while coughing
- Difficulty catching breath
- During a spell, a child may turn red or purple
- High pitched whooping sound when inhaling

It is a highly contagious illness which is spread through contact with respiratory droplets when a child talks, coughs, or sneezes. Children diagnosed with whooping cough should remain home until they receive appropriate evaluation and treatment with antibiotics.

**This is a reminder to keep sick children home where they can rest and get well.**



**Thank you!**  
**Your Child Health Connection Nurse**