

## **Chicken Pox (Varicella)**

We do not see many cases of chicken pox because of the chicken pox vaccine that is now required. However, we do still see a few cases and it is important to know what to look for in your child.

Chicken pox is a very contagious virus that causes fever and an itchy rash of blister-like bumps. It is spread by air or by touching droplets from the nose, mouth and skin bumps of a person with chicken pox.

**The fluid that oozes from the bumps is contagious so your child needs to stay home until all the bumps are scabbed and no new bumps have appeared for 48 hours. It usually takes about 5 – 7 days before your child can come back to school. Please contact your healthcare provider if you suspect chicken pox so that your child can be properly diagnosed and treated.**