

**Curl Curl North Public School** 

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Dear Parents

We have had a reported case of Whooping Cough (pertussis) at the school. The illness is usually characterised by a feeling of being generally unwell with an accompanying deep harsh cough that tends to occur in bouts. The cough may be severe enough to cause the affected person to vomit after a bout of coughing. Whooping Cough can cause a severe illness in young children, particularly in children under the age of 1 year.

Whooping Cough is usually spread by direct contact with the droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person during coughing. People at greatest risk of getting the illness are those who have had a considerable amount of face-to-face contact with a person with the disease. Whooping Cough can occur in people previously vaccinated. Should any person develop some or all of the above symptoms consult your local doctor and mention that there has been a case of Whooping Cough in the school.

For further information please contact the Public Health Unit on 9477 9400.

Yours sincerely, Donna Blatchford Principal