



DATE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

There are two confirmed cases of Rota Virus in your child's class and your child may have been exposed. We do not plan to shut your child's classroom at this time. However, many steps have been taken to limit the spread of this infection; deep cleaning of all surfaces and equipment in the classroom took place on Wednesday 10th January, 2018.

Teachers and staff are ensuring regular hand washing is happening throughout the day. There is also a new policy for classroom toys; any toy that is put in a child's mouth is immediately removed from the classroom and must be disinfected before entering the classroom again.

- **What is Rota Virus?**

Rotavirus is a contagious virus that can cause gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach and intestines). Symptoms include severe watery diarrhea, often with vomiting, fever, and abdominal pain. Infants and young children are most likely to get rotavirus disease.

Rotavirus spreads easily among infants and young children. Children can spread the virus both before and after they become sick with diarrhea. They can also pass rotavirus to family members and other people with whom they have close contact.

People who are infected with rotavirus shed rotavirus in their feces (poop) - this is often how the virus spreads from a person's body to other people and into the environment. They shed the virus most when they are sick and during the first 3 days after they recover.

Rotavirus can be spread by contaminated

- Hands
- Objects (toys, surfaces)
- Food
- Water
- Children are most likely to get rotavirus in the winter and spring (December through June).

- **What should I do now?**

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- Hand washing and good hygiene can limit your child's possibility of infection.
- Please observe your child closely and look for the following symptoms;
 - Severe watery diarrhea
 - Vomiting
 - Fever
 - Abdominal pain
 - Loss of appetite
 - Dehydration
- **What should I do if I think my child has Rota Virus?**
 - If you have any concerns about your child please bring them to your family doctor.
 - Ensure your child stays hydrated (drinks lots of fluids), as dehydration is very dangerous for young children.
 - **Do not allow your child to attend school until your child has had no symptoms of diarrhea or vomiting for 48 hours.**

Thank you for giving this your attention. Your doctor will be able to answer any further questions you may have about Rota Virus.

Sincerely,

Unity Concord International School Nurses Office

