## <Date>

**<Parent/Carer Name>**

**<Address>**

**<SUBURB QLD 4xxx>**

Dear <name of parent/carer>

**Unvaccinated Children and Vaccine Preventable Contagious Conditions under the *Public Health Act 2005 (Qld)***

I advised you on <insert date> that I reasonably suspect that <student’s name> has not been vaccinated against measles, and that they may be at risk of contracting this contagious condition if they continue to attend <name of school>, as there is another student at the school who has been confirmed with measles.

Despite my advice to you, you have continued to send <student’s name> to school.

You have not provided me with a certificate from a doctor stating that your child has been vaccinated against measles and therefore will not be at risk of contracting measles if they continue to attend.

I have been advised by the <location> Public Health Unit that they have no record indicating <student’s name> has been immunised for measles and consequently they may be at risk of contracting measles.

The <location Public Health Unit OR <name>, a doctor authorised by the Public Health Medical Officer>> also advised that any unvaccinated children who may have had contact with the student with measles should be removed from the school and not return until the outbreak of measles is over, or they have met the prescribed period, or the Public Health Unit is satisfied that the risk of an unvaccinated child contracting measles is low.

Therefore, in accordance with s.166 of the Act, I direct you to remove <student’s name> from the school for the prescribed period for measles. They may not return to school before <insert date as advised by the PHMO>. This measure is intended to protect your child and other unvaccinated children from becoming infected and to prevent further spread of the condition within the school community.

I have attached a copy of the Public Health Unit’s advice and further information on this contagious condition as provided to me by the Public Health Unit <remove if written advice not provided>, and a copy of the relevant provisions of the Act and the Regulation.

If you have vaccination records indicating that <student’s name> has had the relevant vaccinations or you choose to vaccinate them during this outbreak, please contact the school as soon as possible to allow this information to be reviewed.

If you think <student’s name> may have developed measles, I recommend you seek medical advice as soon as possible. Please advise the medical practice before your visit that the condition may be contagious. You can also contact your local Public Health Unit who can provide you with further advice.

To discuss the options available for <student’s name> to access an educational program while they are subject to this direction and not attending school, please contact me on <contact details>.

I look forward to seeing <student’s name> again on their return to school.

Yours sincerely

Principal

School name

Enc. (Public Health Unit advice) <remove if written advice not provided>

(ss. 165, 166 *Public Health Act 2005*)

(Schedule 4 Part 3 Public Health Regulation 2018)

### Extracts from *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)

**s.165 Person in charge may advise parent of child not vaccinated about suspicion of vaccine preventable condition**

(1) This section applies if the person in charge of a school, education and care service or QEC approved service reasonably suspects that a child attending the school or service—

(a) has not been vaccinated for a vaccine preventable condition; and

(b) may be at risk of contracting the condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The person in charge may advise at least 1 of the child's parents of the suspicion.

**s.166 Person in charge may direct parent not to send child to school, education and care service or QEC approved service**

(1) This section applies if—

(a) a person in charge of a school, education and care service or QEC approved service has advised a parent under section 165(2) about the parent's child; and

(b) the child continues to attend the school or service or the parent tells the person in charge that the parent's child will continue to attend the school or service; and

(c) the person in charge reasonably suspects that the child will be at risk of contracting the contagious condition if the child continues to attend the school or service.

(2) The person in charge may direct the parent—

(a) to remove the child from the school, education and care service or QEC approved service as soon as reasonably practicable; and

(b) not to send the child to the school or service during the prescribed period for the condition applying to the child.

(3) However, the person in charge must consult a doctor or another person authorised by the chief executive for advice before taking action under subsection (2).

### Extracts from *Public Health Regulation 2018* (Qld)

**Schedule 4 Part 3 Prescribed period for contagious condition for child suspected of not being vaccinated**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Contagious condition** | **Start of period** | **End of period** |
| Measles | the chief executive gives a direction there is an outbreak of the condition at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service attended by the child | the earlier of the following—  (a) if the child is not vaccinated—the chief executive gives a direction that the outbreak of the condition at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service is over;  (b) if the child is vaccinated during the outbreak—the chief executive advises a parent of the child that the chief executive is satisfied the risk of the child contracting the condition is low |
| the chief executive gives a direction there is an outbreak of the condition in the community, if there is a risk of children and staff at the school, education and care service or QEC approved service attended by the child contracting the condition | the chief executive advises a parent of the child that the chief executive is satisfied the risk of the child contracting the condition is low |