# Engagement guidelines for Victorian Government schools and Local Public Health Units regarding notifiable conditions

## Purpose

These guidelines are intended to support consistent engagement and collaboration between Victorian government schools and Local Public Health Units (LPHUs) and to ensure that:

* LPHUs can quickly and easily identify and engage with schools
* School staff understand why, when and how LPHUs will contact them regarding notifiable conditions
* Schools receive consistent support and engagement from LPHUs across the state in relation to response to communicable disease.

LPHUs have a role in local health promotion and prevention activities and may engage with schools to deliver and support local initiatives. Engagement regarding health promotion and prevention is out of scope for these guidelines.

## Expectations

Victorian government school staff are expected to:

* Follow the Department of Education’s [Infectious Diseases Policy](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/infectious-diseases/policy), including reporting certain conditions to the Department of Education’s Incident Support and Operations Centre. This will automatically notify Regional Directors, Area Executive Directors and the Health Promotion, Prevention and Advice team.
* Respond promptly to LPHU contacts and requests.
* Action recommendations of LPHUs in relation to notifiable conditions.

LPHUs are expected to:

* Follow these guidelines when engaging with Victorian government schools.
* Follow the public health actions as set out in the applicable condition protocol.
* Follow the escalation pathways as set out in the applicable condition protocol.

## Process

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