

Insert School/Daycare
Name or Logo Here



[DATE]

[ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP]

[PHONE NUMBER]

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to notify you that a case of shingles has been reported at [NAME OF SCHOOL OR DAYCARE] and that your child may have been exposed.

It is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. In those who have had chickenpox, the virus will remain in their body in a part of a nerve near the spinal cord. The virus may become active again and cause a local, painful rash along the path of that nerve.

Those who have not had chickenpox or have not had the vaccine are able to get chickenpox when exposed to shingles by contact with fluid from the rash. Those who have had chickenpox or received the vaccine are protected from exposure to shingles.

Although chickenpox is usually not serious, children often miss school or daycare causing parents to miss work as well. **In some children, pregnant women, and people with weak immune systems chickenpox can cause severe illness; leading to hospital stays or even death.**

We recommend those who have not had chickenpox or not been vaccinated contact their doctor and consider getting vaccinated. The vaccine is safe and reduces both the mild and serious risks of chickenpox and future shingles.

Please see the fact sheet if you have any questions. If you have any questions please call the Bay County Health Department at 989-895-4003.

Sincerely,

[NAME, TITLE]