

Health Information for Families

To ensure that your children have a safe and healthy learning environment, we want to provide you with the most updated health information regarding Methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

MRSA is a type of “staph” infection that is resistant to many antibiotics and frequently causes skin infections. Common signs of a skin infection include redness, warmth, swelling and tenderness. Often a MRSA infection will look like a spider bite, boil, abscess or turf burn. If it is left untreated, it could progress into a more serious illness.

MRSA skin infections are generally spread by skin-to-skin contact or by direct contact with the infected wound drainage. They may also be spread by contact with contaminated surfaces or things such as sports equipment or personal hygiene items. MRSA skin infections are not spread through the air.

The presence of MRSA is not unique to Champaign County. Outbreaks of MRSA are occurring across the country and they have become more common within athletic settings.

Please be aware of the signs and symptoms of MRSA. If you or a family member has the symptoms described on the attached fact sheets, please contact your medical provider. For more information on MRSA, contact the school nurse or the Champaign-Urbana Health Department at 531-5361.

Additional information about MRSA can be found on our website. See www.unitsevenschools.com. Click on MRSA information.