



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION III  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY

18 February 2026

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 088, s. 2026

**DIVISION LOCALIZED POLICIES ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO CONTROL CHICKENPOX (VARICELLA) OUTBREAK IN THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chiefs, (CID) and (SGOD)  
School Heads of Public Elementary and Secondary Schools  
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to the mandate of the Department of Education to ensure safe, orderly, and health-promoting learning environments, and in view of reported and/or potential cases of Chickenpox (Varicella), this Office hereby issues this **Division Localized Policies on Preventive Measures To Control ChickenPox (Varicella) Outbreak in the Schools Division Office of Angeles City**:

**I. RATIONALE**

Chickenpox (Varicella) is a highly contagious viral infection transmitted through direct contact and respiratory droplets. Given the high density of interaction among learners and personnel in school settings, prompt preventive and responsive interventions are necessary to safeguard public health while ensuring the continuity of learning and uninterrupted delivery of essential services.

**II. LEGAL BASES**

This Memorandum is issued pursuant to the following laws, policies, and issuances:

- **Republic Act No. 10533** (Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013), which mandates the provision of a learner-centered and safe educational environment;
- **Republic Act No. 11036** (Mental Health Act), which upholds the protection and promotion of learners' and personnel's well-being, particularly during health-related emergencies;
- **Republic Act No. 11332**, (Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act), which requires the mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern to appropriate authorities;
- **Republic Act No. 11223**, (Universal Healthcare Act), which institutionalizes health promotion and disease prevention programs in various settings, including schools;



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION III

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY

- **Republic Act No. 10121**, (Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act), which provides for preparedness and coordinated response to emergencies affecting public safety;
- Relevant guidelines issued by the Department of Health on the prevention and control of communicable diseases; and
- Existing policies of the Department of Education on School Health and Nutrition Programs, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM), and Child Protection.

### III. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This Memorandum shall apply to:

- a. All public elementary and secondary schools within the Division;
- b. Division Office officials and personnel;
- c. Learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel; and
- d. School visitors and other stakeholders.

### IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

For purposes of this Memorandum, the following terms are defined:

- **Chickenpox (Varicella)** – A contagious viral infection characterized by fever and vesicular (blister-like) rash.
- **Confirmed Case** – A case diagnosed by a duly licensed physician.
- **Suspected Case** – An individual exhibiting symptoms consistent with chickenpox, including fever accompanied by rash or fluid-filled blisters.
- **Outbreak** – The occurrence of two (2) or more epidemiologically linked cases within a classroom, office, or school within a short period.

### V. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

#### V.1 Early Detection and Reporting

- a. All suspected or confirmed cases shall be immediately reported to the School Head.
- b. School Heads shall notify the Division School Health and Nutrition Personnel and coordinate with the Local Government Unit (LGU) and the local health office.
- c. All reporting shall strictly comply with the requirements of RA 11332 and related health surveillance protocols.

#### V.2 Isolation Protocol

- a. Learners or personnel exhibiting symptoms shall be immediately isolated in the designated clinic or health room pending referral.
- b. Parents or guardians shall be promptly notified for immediate pick-up of affected learners.



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION III  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY

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c. Symptomatic personnel shall be advised to return home and seek medical consultation.

#### V.3 Temporary Exclusion Policy

- a. Confirmed cases shall undergo home isolation for at least seven (7) days from the onset of rash or until all lesions have crusted over, as certified by a licensed physician.
- b. Return to school or work shall be subject to submission of medical clearance.

#### V.4 Environmental Sanitation and Infection Control

- a. Daily cleaning and disinfection of classrooms, offices, and high-touch surfaces shall be strictly implemented.
- b. Adequate ventilation in classrooms and offices shall be ensured.
- c. Handwashing facilities and alcohol-based hand sanitizers shall be made readily accessible.

#### V.5 Health Education and Risk Communication

- a. Schools shall conduct health education campaigns on symptoms, transmission, and preventive measures.
- b. Advisories shall be disseminated to parents, guardians, and stakeholders.
- c. Stigma, discrimination, or any form of bullying against affected individuals shall not be tolerated.

#### V.6 Vaccination Advocacy

Schools shall coordinate with the LGU and the local health office to support vaccination initiatives consistent with DOH recommendations.

### **VI. CONTINGENCY MEASURES IN CASE OF CLUSTERING OF CASES**

In the event of multiple or clustered cases:

- a. The School Head shall immediately convene the School DRRM Team.
- b. Temporary suspension of face-to-face classes in affected classrooms or grade levels may be recommended, subject to approval of the Schools Division Superintendent and in coordination with the LGU.
- c. Appropriate Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM) shall be implemented to ensure continuity of learning.
- d. Intensified disinfection, contact monitoring, and health surveillance shall be undertaken.



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION III

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY

**VII. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

VII.1 Schools Division Office

- Provide policy guidance and monitor compliance;
- Coordinate with LGUs and health authorities; and
- Extend technical assistance to schools.

VII.2 School Heads

- Ensure strict implementation of preventive measures;
- Maintain updated records of reported cases; and
- Submit incident reports to the SDO within twenty-four (24) hours of confirmation of cases.

VII.3 Teachers

- Monitor learners for symptoms; and
- Facilitate make-up work and learning continuity arrangements for affected learners.

VII.4 Parents/Guardians

- Immediately inform the school of suspected or confirmed cases; and
- Ensure compliance with prescribed isolation and medical protocols.

**VIII. DATA PRIVACY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION**

All personal health information shall be handled in accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012. Confidentiality shall be strictly observed. Any form of discrimination, bullying, or stigmatization of affected learners or personnel is strictly prohibited.

**IX. EFFECTIVITY**

This Memorandum shall take effect immediately upon issuance and shall remain in force until revoked or amended.

2. For immediate dissemination and strict compliance.



**ENGR. EDGARD C. DOMINGO PhD, CESO V**  
Schools Division Superintendent 

SGOD/CES/February 18, 2026