



Communicable Disease Prevention and Control
150 West Tasman Drive, Suite 1A
San Jose, California 95134
(Tel) 408.885.4214
(Fax) 408.885.4249

EXPOSURE NOTICE: PINK EYE (CONJUNCTIVITIS)

Date Issued: _____

Dear Parent, Legal Guardian, or Staff,

Students and staff may have been recently exposed to **pink eye**. We are providing the information below so you know what steps you can take to protect yourself and others. This information does not replace talking with your doctor if you become sick. ***If you or your child have symptoms, please seek diagnosis and treatment from a healthcare provider as soon as possible.***

PINK EYE (CONJUNCTIVITIS): A common infection of the eye caused by viruses or bacteria. Pink eye can also be caused by things other than infections such as allergies and chemicals.

What are the symptoms? Red or pink, itchy, painful, swollen, and/or watery eye(s). Discharge (pus or mucus) may also be present. Affected eye(s) may be crusted shut in the morning. Pink eye may affect one or both eyes.

How is it spread? Many viruses and bacteria can cause pink eye, and these germs can spread in different ways. Usually, they spread by close contact (like touching or shaking hands) or through the air (when a sick person coughs or sneezes). They can also spread when a person touches their eyes after touching a surface that has germs on it.

When do symptoms start? Depends on the germ causing the infection, may range from days to weeks.

Do staff or children need to stay home if symptoms develop? No. However, your child should stay home if unable to participate in group activities.

When can staff or children go back to work, school, or childcare? The child or staff member can return when they are fully able to participate in group activities and meet school or childcare's readmission criteria.

For additional information, visit [cdc.gov/conjunctivitis](https://www.cdc.gov/conjunctivitis).

Good handwashing before preparing or eating food and after using the toilet or changing diapers prevents spread of this disease.