

Dear Early Care and Education Partners,

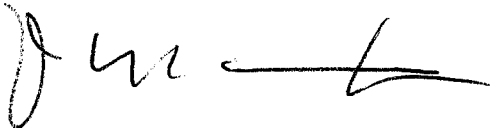
The Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program is pleased to share The Pertussis Toolkit: Disease Management for Daycare/Preschools and Schools. Managing pertussis in a school setting can be challenging, and this toolkit is intended to support early recognition, quick reporting, and collaborative case management.

Pertussis can cause serious illness and be life-threatening to people of all ages but especially to infants and school-aged children. Since the 1980s, there has been an increase in the number of pertussis cases in the United States and in 2014, there were more than 10,000 cases reported in California, which included two infant deaths and hundreds of hospitalizations. Children and students who are not vaccinated for pertussis, or under-vaccinated, are at risk for being infected or infecting others.

The pertussis toolkit provides guidance, resources and outlines school/early care and public health roles. Included are checklists, fact sheets for staff and parents, template notification letters and answers to frequently asked questions.

We consider your partnership critical to the well-being of children. Together, we can protect them from vaccine preventable diseases, keep them healthy, safe and in school. For more information please contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program at (213) 351-7800 or go to our website at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/index.htm>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle T. Parra', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michelle T. Parra, Ph.D.
Director, Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health