

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY Office of the Honourable Commissioner

PRESS RELEASE

PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN OGUN STATE SCHOOLS

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology wishes to alert School Heads about the outbreak of Cholera - a waterborne disease spread by contaminated food and water, in some States across the Country.

It therefore becomes imperative to put in place preventive measures to control its spread in our Schools.

All School Heads are mandated to ensure good health and safety of all learners and staff in our Schools to prevent the spread of the disease within the School communities.

You are enjoined to please engage in the following preventive measures with effect from Wednesday, 19th June, 2024 when learners resume from the mid-term break and Eid Kabir public holiday.

- Conduct comprehensive health talks on cholera prevention among learners and staff. This should include information on symptoms, transmission routes, and preventive measures such as proper hand hygiene and safe drinking water practices.
- 2. Ensure availability of clean water and soap for hand washing in school premises.
- 3. Encourage regular handwashing, especially before eating and after using the restroom.
- 4. Promote the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content as a support to hand washing.
- 5. Regularly inspect and maintain water sources within school premises to ensure that they are safe for drinking.
- 6. Instruct learners and staff to consume only boiled or chlorinated water and avoid consuming raw or unwashed fruits and vegetables.
- 7. Maintain clean and hygienic school environments, including proper disposal of waste and regular cleaning of toilets and common areas.

- 7. Maintain clean and hygienic school environments, including proper disposal of waste and regular cleaning of toilets and common areas.
- 8. Collaborate closely with local health authorities and follow their guidelines for cholera prevention and control measures.
- Ensure safe food preparation by making sure that they are properly cooked and covered when not consumed immediately.
- 10. Monitor closely the Food Vendors and ensure that they collect letters from Health Facilities certifying their fitness for the job.
- 11. Designate Health Officers within the school to monitor learners and staff for any symptoms of cholera (like frequent watery stooling, etc) and report any suspected cases immediately to the nearest Health Care Centre and to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

By adhering strictly to these preventive measures and maintaining a high level of vigilance, we can collectively safeguard our health and well-being during this critical period.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to ensuring a safe learning environment.

Prof. Abayomi A. Arigbabu FMAN

Hon. State Commissioner for Education,

Science and Technology,

Ogun State

/gthtJune, 2024.