



THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

26 Court Street
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

Public Health Department
(508) 747-1620 ext 10118

January 11, 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR JAN 2018 RISING TIDE SUSPECT NOROVIRUS OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: 11 January Norovirus Outbreak Investigation at Rising Tide Charter School

The Town of Plymouth's Public Health Department investigated a suspect Norovirus Outbreak on January 11, 2018. Winter is considered an opportune time for Norovirus, especially among those who are or become immunocompromised. At the recommendation of the Plymouth Public Health Department in coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health the cancelation of school on Friday January 12, 2018 was deemed appropriate. The determination was based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for Norovirus outbreaks and on the rate of absenteeism at Rising Tide.

Parents of students are urged to make sure that members of your household seek medical attention if you or your child or children have any nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or severe headache and abdominal pain. The Rising Tide School leadership has established guidelines concerning children returning to school and the Plymouth Public Health Department supports the guidelines as they are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal of the guidelines are to reduce and eliminate the transmission of the virus within the school environment. Further, the Public Health Department has advised the school leadership to clean and disinfect the facility and the school bus transportation at the end of the school day to ensure optimal prevention and health protection. Plymouth Public Health will follow-up with school leadership on protocol to ensure the appropriate actions were taken. It is expected to have school operations resume on Tuesday January 16, 2018 based on these preventive actions taken.

If you have further questions, please contact the Plymouth Public Health Department at 508-747-1620 extension 10118.

Dr. Nate Horwitz-Willis, DrPH, MPH, MPA
Director of Public Health