

Diagnosed case of pertussis (whooping cough)  
at Point Pleasant Primary School  
September 18, 2012

The Mason County Health Department has been notified that a student attending the Point Pleasant Primary School was diagnosed with pertussis (whooping cough).

In consultation with the state and local health departments in West Virginia, we are notifying parents about this situation as a precaution. If a child has been identified to have been directly exposed to pertussis, you will be contacted directly by the Mason County Health Department.

Pertussis is spread by face-to-face contact with a person who has the disease. When a child is diagnosed with pertussis, the physician notifies the health department. The local health department works to identify all people who have come in contact with the case. These people are referred to as 'contacts,' and the local health department works to make certain they are treated with antibiotics so they will not get sick. Children who have not had face-to-face contact with a person who has pertussis do not need to take medication. If you have any questions, you may contact the Mason County Health Department directly at 304-675-3050.