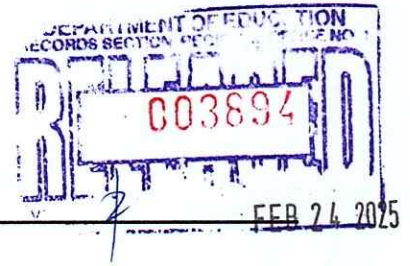




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 239 s. 2025

ADVISORY ON DENGUE PREVENTION AND CONTROL MEASURES IN SCHOOLS

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. This pertains to the memorandum from Officer-in-Charge Malcolm S. Garma, Office of the Undersecretary for Operations, dated February 18, 2025, regarding Dengue Prevention and Control Measures in Schools.
2. This aims to reduce the transmission of dengue fever, a mosquito-borne viral disease that poses a significant health risk to children in school settings.
3. In line with this, all schools are urged to implement dengue prevention and response measures as outlined in the Department of Health's 5S Strategy. Schools should coordinate with LGUs and health agencies and conduct monitoring to ensure strict compliance with dengue prevention measures within their respective jurisdictions.
4. Attached is the memorandum for your reference.
5. For compliance.

TOLENTINO G. AQUINO
Director IV

Enclosed: DM No: 2025-08-01192
Reference:
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATION

ESSD-SQC/rrc/2025 Regional Memo 2025
February 20, 2025



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Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

DM-OUOPS-2025-08-0192

**FOR : REGIONAL DIRECTORS
 SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
 PRINCIPALS/SCHOOL HEADS/TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE
 CONCERNED
 ALL OTHER CONCERNED**

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
 Assistant Secretary, Officer-in-Charge,
 Office of the Undersecretary for Operations


Dr. DEXTER A. GALBAN
 Assistant Secretary for Operations

**SUBJECT : ADVISORY ON DENGUE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
 MEASURES IN SCHOOLS**

DATE : February 18, 2025

In light of the alarming rise in dengue cases and the declaration of local outbreaks by several local government units, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) hereby issues this Advisory on the Prevention of Dengue Fever.

Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral disease that poses a significant health risk. It is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected *Aedes* mosquitoes, primarily *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. Common symptoms include high fever, severe headaches, joint and muscle pain, nausea, and rash. In severe cases, it can lead to life-threatening complications such as Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) and Dengue Shock Syndrome (DSS)¹.

To ensure the health and safety of our learners and school personnel, the following measures must be observed and followed:

DENGUE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE MEASURES IN SCHOOLS

To effectively prevent and control cases of dengue fever, all schools are urged follow the *5S Strategy* of the Department of Health, outlined as follows:

1. World Health Organization (2024). Dengue and severe dengue.



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1. **Search and Destroy Mosquito Breeding Sites**

- a. Conduct weekly clean-up drives in classrooms, restrooms, and school grounds;
- b. Remove stagnant water from plant saucers, old tires, roof gutters, and other water-collecting items;
- c. Properly cover water storage containers and dispose of waste properly;
- d. Regularly inspect school premises for potential mosquito breeding sites.

2. **Self-Protection Measures**

- a. Encourage learners and school personnel/staff to
 - i. Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks to minimize mosquito bites;
 - ii. Apply DOH-approved mosquito repellents, when necessary;
 - iii. Maintain well-ventilated classrooms and install screens on windows and doors if possible.

3. **Seek Early Consultation**

- a. Parents and teachers should be vigilant in recognizing/identifying early signs and symptoms of dengue, which include, amongst others:
 - i. High-grade fever (39 degrees Celsius or higher) lasting at least 2 days, or possibly recurring over a 7 day period;
 - ii. Severe headache, dizziness, or unusual tiredness;
 - iii. Pain behind the eyes;
 - iv. Body aches, joint or muscle pain;
 - v. Skin rash;
 - vi. Nausea, vomiting, or loss of appetite.

If a learner has a high fever and any of these symptoms, they should be referred to a health facility immediately.

- b. Watch for danger signs requiring urgent medical attention:
 - i. Severe stomach pain;
 - ii. Persistent vomiting;
 - iii. Unusual bleeding (nosebleeds, gum bleeding, bruising);
 - iv. Extreme drowsiness, irritability, or difficulty breathing;
 - v. Cold, clammy skin or fainting.

If any of these signs appear, the learner must be rushed to a hospital without delay.

4. **Support Fogging As a Last Resort or Only in Outbreak Situations**

- a. Schools should coordinate with their Barangay Health Workers and Local Health Offices to assess the necessity of fogging.
- b. Fogging should only be conducted in areas where a dengue outbreak has been officially declared

5. **Sustain Hydration**

- a. Schools are encouraged to provide safe and accessible drinking water via hydration stations and other appropriate means

- b. Learners and school personnel are encouraged to increase their fluid intake, particularly if experiencing symptoms such as fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, to prevent dehydration

COORDINATION WITH LGUS AND HEALTH AGENCIES

1. Schools are urged to closely coordinate with their respective Barangay Health Workers, Rural Health Units, and Local Government Units in monitoring and/or reporting dengue cases to ensure timely response at the community level.
2. Schools must stay informed on any issuances, advisories, and guidelines provided by the Department of Health, updating protocols and practices as necessary to align with the latest public health recommendations.
3. Schools must coordinate with DOH-accredited Dengue Centers of Excellence, as mandated by DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0009, to ensure proper referral and treatment of severe dengue cases.
4. Schools are strongly encouraged to partner with their respective LGUs in implementing community-based dengue prevention initiatives.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

1. All Regional and Schools Division Offices shall ensure strict and consistent implementation of dengue prevention measures across all schools in their respective jurisdictions
2. Principals/School heads are required to:
 - a. Organize and conduct regular dengue prevention activities and submit reports to their respective Schools Division Office, following existing guidelines
 - b. Monitor absenteeism trends as early indicators of potential dengue outbreaks
 - c. Immediately report suspected dengue cases to the nearest health facility

For wide dissemination & strict compliance.