



Achieving Excellence for Ourselves and Others



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Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to let you know that we have one confirmed case of scarlet fever in KS2. There are lots of coughs and colds around at the moment and only one child has been confirmed so far with scarlet fever. Most cases (about 80%) of scarlet fever occur in children under 10. However, people of any age can get the illness. We are required by Public Health to inform all parents of any cases of scarlet fever at the school. Please don't worry and send your child to school as normal, unless they are showing the symptoms listed below.

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others. The symptoms of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think your child may have scarlet fever:

- See your GP or contact NHS 111,
- Make sure that your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor,
- Keep your child away from school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection. After this time, they can return to school as long as they are feeling well enough to do so.

If your child has an underlying condition which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed.

You can find more information on the following website <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Scarlet-fever/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Yours sincerely,

Damian Knollys
Head teacher

