

13th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to make you aware that we do have rising numbers of Scarlet Fever in school. There does not appear to be a pattern of cases within the same class at the moment, but we are closely monitoring the situation.

If a 'hot spot' does arise and we have multiple cases within the same cohort, we may need to make the decision to close classes at short notice.

The symptoms of scarlet fever include:

- Sore throat.
- Headache.
- Fever.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Within 48 hours, a characteristic pinkish-red, generalised pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture.
- On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, although the sandpaper feel should be present.
- Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth.
- This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'.
- Your child could develop some but not all of the symptoms

If you think you, or your child, have scarlet fever you must:

- See your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible.
- Make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.
- Stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection.

The Local Authority and Health professionals have assured us that we are doing everything we can to prevent the spread of Scarlet Fever and I will keep you updated if there are any changes. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at school if you have any questions or queries.

With very best wishes,



Mrs Rowett
Headteacher