



Acting Head Teacher:
Paul Vine

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Scarlet Fever

Dear Parent/Carer,

There has been a case of scarlet fever reported to us.

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.

What is scarlet fever?

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by bacteria. The symptoms are non-specific in early illness and may include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red rash develops, typically appearing on the chest and stomach and rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. Most children have flushed cheeks and a swollen red tongue.

How do you get it?

Scarlet fever is highly contagious and the bacteria are present in the mouth, throat and nose of an infected person. The disease is spread by coughing and sneezing and by contact with things such as tables, cups or pens which have been contaminated with saliva or nasal secretions of an infected person. It takes 2-5 days to develop symptoms after being infected.

What is the treatment?

Antibiotic treatment is recommended for cases of scarlet fever.

How can you prevent scarlet fever?

Reduce the spread of infection by encouraging handwashing at appropriate times and not sharing eating utensils or towels with an infected person. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately, followed by handwashing.

Who should be kept away from school?

Any child that is unwell should be excluded from school. Children with scarlet fever can return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics if they are well enough. The parents of any child with a rash illness is advised to consult their GP.

P.T.O



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Should siblings be kept away from school?

No, children who are well may attend school as usual.

If you think you or your child have scarlet fever:

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

You can find more information by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

If your child does have a GP confirmed case of Scarlet Fever, please let school know.

Kind Regards,



Mr. Vine
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