



24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to let you know that we may have had a case of Scarlet Fever in school.

Scarlet fever is mainly a childhood disease and is most common between the ages of two and eight years. It was once dangerous, but antibiotic treatment means it is now much less common and much less serious, however it is still contagious.

Scarlet fever is an infectious disease and can also cause impetigo. The bacteria associated with this illness are actually around us all the time and can be found on the skin or in the throat. They often live here without causing any problems, however, under some circumstances, they can also cause illnesses like Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever is characterised by a rash, which usually accompanies a sore throat, and is sometimes confused with the measles rash. Sometimes there is a red and swollen tongue and flushed cheeks.

The symptoms take around two to five days to develop after being infected and the best way of stopping the spread is of course to have good hygiene (using tissues and throwing them away appropriately, as well as washing hands regularly).

The illness tends to be most common in the winter and spring and the treatment usually consists of a course of antibiotics.

As with any illness that you are unsure of, we advise you to seek medical advice from your GP and do please update us if your child is diagnosed with any specific illness.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Fox  
Headteacher