



St Paul's C of E Junior School

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Re: Scarlet Fever

Sent 20 Feb 2017 16:12

Dear Parents,

We have had 2 reported cases of Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet fever is a highly contagious bacterial illness that mainly affects children. It causes a distinctive pink-red rash. You should seek medical advice if you suspect you or your child has scarlet fever as without treatment the condition is contagious for one to two weeks after symptoms appear.

Symptoms include:

- sore throat
- headache
- high temperature (38.3C/101F or above)
- flushed face
- swollen tongue
- rash (develops 12 to 48 hours later).

Further symptoms may also include:

- swollen neck glands
- loss of appetite
- nausea or vomiting
- red lines in the folds of the body, such as the armpit
- a white coating on the tongue, which peels a few days later leaving the tongue red and swollen (this is known as strawberry tongue)
- a general feeling of being unwell

Scarlet fever is usually treated with a 10-day course of antibiotics. With treatment, most people recover in about four to five days. **A child is able to return school 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.**

For further information please visit the NHS Choices website here.

