



Sacred Heart RC Primary School

WESTHOUGHTON

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Tuesday 6th December 2022

Bolton Council Public Health Notification

Dear Parents,

Please find information below from Bolton Council Public Health with relation to Scarlet Fever and Strep A:

Further to the press coverage over the weekend regarding Streptococcal infections, please find below resources which I hope are helpful at this time.

The latest data from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) shows that scarlet fever cases continue to remain higher than we would typically see at this time of year, though are currently lower than the typical seasonal peak we often see in Spring.

Scarlet Fever is caused by bacteria called group A streptococci. It's easily treated with antibiotics. These bacteria also cause other respiratory and skin infections such as strep throat and impetigo. In very rare occasions, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS).

Signs and symptoms of Scarlet Fever

The first signs of Scarlet Fever are flu-like symptoms such as:

- High temperature
- Sore throat and swollen neck glands
- A bumpy, rough feeling rash usually appears after 12 to 48 hours on the chest and tummy.

If you think your child is showing signs of Scarlet Fever it's important to contact your local GP or NHS111.

Individuals with scarlet fever should not attend setting until 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. If no antibiotics have been administered, the individual will be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks and should not attend setting for this period.

What education settings need to do

- Share information about signs and symptoms.
- Good hand and respiratory hygiene are important for stopping the spread of many bugs.
- Encourage children, young people and staff to implement good hand hygiene practices.
- Encourage staff, children and young people to implement good respiratory hygiene practices.

We will contact parents/carers if their child shows signs and symptoms of Scarlet Fever. We ask that parents/carers notify School if their child is diagnosed with Scarlet Fever.

Yours sincerely,

Main Office.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

