



12 December 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

Notification of Positive Cases of Strep A

I am writing to you for transparency to confirm that we have been advised that there have been four confirmed cases of Strep A within Years 7, 9 and 11. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope that any symptoms are mild.

What are scarlet fever and Strep A?

Scarlet fever is caused by bacteria called Group A streptococci (Strep A). The bacteria usually causes a mild infection that can be easily treated with antibiotics.

In very rare occasions, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS).

What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- A fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel
- On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Scarlet Fever or Strep A

If your child becomes unwell with these symptoms, please contact your GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.

If your child has scarlet fever or Strep A, they must not come to school and should stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

Please trust your own judgement and if your child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A&E if:

- Your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when a child breathes
- Your child's [skin, tongue or lips are blue](#)
- Your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

To prevent the spread of Strep A, UKHSA advises everyone to implement good [hand and respiratory hygiene](#) practices.

For more information visit the UKHSA [website](#) or the [Education Hub](#).

I would like to reassure you that we are closely monitoring cases within the school and will advise you of there are any further cases.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher