

# Green Meadow Primary School



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Miss H Setchell, Head Teacher

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

We wrote to you on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to inform you that a case of Scarlett Fever had been reported in school. We now understand that there are a number of confirmed cases and some suspected cases. We are re-issuing this guidance to support you in looking for signs and symptoms of the condition in order to reduce the likelihood of any further cases and to remind you what to do if you think your child has symptoms.

All staff have been updated on recent guidance and will contact you if your child starts to display symptoms during the school day. We will ask you to collect your child and take them to your GP to confirm if indeed they do have Scarlett Fever. Following a diagnosis form your GP, your child can return to school when he/she is well and has finished one full day of antibiotic treatment.

#### What is Scarlet Fever?

Scarlet Fever is a scattered red rash and high temperature caused by bacteria (Group A streptococci). Occasionally these bacteria can cause kidney or heart complications. Prompt treatment with an antibiotic usually prevents these complications. Treatment will also prevent spread to others.

### What are the symptoms of scarlet fever?

A scattered red rash that is often most marked in the creases of the joints and over the stomach. It usually blanches (goes white) when pressed on. The skin may feel rough to the touch, sometimes described as feeling like sandpaper. Someone with scarlet fever will have evidence of a streptococcal infection somewhere, usually in the throat or sometimes in the skin.

### What should I do if I think my child has it?

If your child develops any of these symptoms bring him/her to your GP for examination. Tell the doctor that another child in the school has scarlet fever.

#### If my child has scarlet fever what should I do?

The doctor will prescribe an antibiotic for your child. It is important that your child takes the full course of medicine.

# Can my child stay in school?

Your child can return to school when he/she is well and has finished one full day of antibiotic treatment.

## What can I do to prevent spread of infection at home?

The bacteria are spread through contact with nose and mouth secretions so:

- Wash hands thoroughly after wiping nose.
- Wash hand thoroughly before preparing food.
- Wash dishes well in hot soapy water.
- Do not share cups, straws, spoons, eating utensils etc.
- Do not share toothbrushes.

Thank you for giving this your attention. Your GP will be able to answer any further questions that you might have concerning scarlet fever.

Yours sincerely,

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**Kate Cross** 

Assistant Headteacher