



Stretton School

Independent Nursery and Preparatory School for Boys and Girls

Established 1969

3 April 2018

Dear Parents

Scarlet Fever

We have had one confirmed case of Scarlet Fever in Nippers. Scarlet Fever is due to a throat infection caused by a bacterium called streptococcus. There are various strains of Streptococcus which cause different infections, the group A streptococcus causes Scarlet Fever. It is most common in children aged 3-15 years, the most common age being 4 years.

Symptoms

- Sore throat and fever (high temperature) are the first symptoms.
- A bright red (scarlet) rash then develops. The rash starts as small red spots, usually on the neck and upper chest. It soon spreads to many other parts of the body. The face may become quite flushed. The rash blanches (goes white) if you press on it. The areas of skin around the eyes, lips and nose are usually spared from this rash.
- The tongue may become pale but coated with red spots. After a few days the whole tongue may look red.
- Other common symptoms include: headaches, vomiting, being off food and feeling generally unwell.

The sore throat and fever last a few days, and then usually ease. The rash lasts about six days, and then usually fades away. As the rash fades, some of the skin may peel, mainly on the hands and feet (a bit like after being sunburnt). The rash can recur over the following three weeks. For more information, please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

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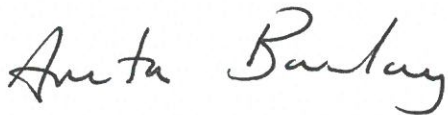


Scarlet Fever is very contagious, and could affect someone in close contact with a person with a sore throat or skin infection caused by streptococcus bacteria. Outbreaks often occur in Nurseries and Schools where children are in close contact with one another. Therefore, if your child appears to be suffering any of the above symptoms, it is vital you seek medical advice. Treatment is usually a 10-day course of antibiotics. Symptoms usually improve in a few days, but it is important to finish the course. This ensures all the bacteria are killed and reduces the chance of complications.

In line with our Exclusion Periods, please ensure your child does not come to school for at least 5 days from commencing antibiotics.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anita Barclay". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Anita E Barclay
Headmistress