

VRD/DPN

5 December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Scarlet Fever

You may have seen in the news that Scarlet Fever caused by the invasive Group A strep bacteria is higher than we would typically see at this time of year.

Scarlet fever is a contagious infection that mostly affects young children. It's easily treated with antibiotics. The first signs of scarlet fever can be flu-like symptoms, including a high temperature, a sore throat and swollen neck glands (a large lump on the side of your neck). A rash appears 12 to 48 hours later. It looks like small, raised bumps and starts on the chest and tummy, then spreads. The rash makes your skin feel rough, like sandpaper.

There are simple things that we can all do to avoid spreading scarlet fever.

How to avoid spreading scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is very infectious and can easily spread to other people.

To reduce the chance of spreading scarlet fever:

- Do**
- ✓ wash your hands often with soap and water
- ✓ use tissues to trap germs from coughs or sneezes
- ✓ bin used tissues as quickly as possible

- Don't**
- ✗ do not share cutlery, cups, towels, clothes, bedding or baths with anyone who has symptoms of scarlet fever


Full details are contained in the links below:

Strep A <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>

Scarlet Fever <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

If you or your child have symptoms please see your GP and let your child's school know.

Yours sincerely



Mrs V Reid

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The GLC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.