



We Make A Difference

Headteacher
Kam Grewal-Joy
Deputy Headteachers
Steve Bacon
Tamsin Woodward

7th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Strep A

You will be aware that there has been a number of Strep A cases across the country that have been reported in the media in recent days. I am writing to inform you that we have been advised of two confirmed cases of STREP A amongst the Meadowhead student population.

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes* (also known as group A *Streptococcus* [GAS]). Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Therefore, look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with 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. Contact NHS 111 or your GP if you suspect your child has scarlet fever, because early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection. If your child has scarlet fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

At school we will be taking actions to minimise the risk of infection, by:

- Continuing to keep learning spaces well ventilated.
- Encouraging students to have good hand hygiene.
- Enhancing cleaning across the school, especially in high touch places.
- Liaising closely with health professionals and UKHSA

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and we will be working closely with health professionals and UKHSA. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, scarlet fever will be a mild illness. As we are seeing unusually high rates of respiratory illness across the country, please keep children home if they may be infectious and seek medical advice if symptoms worsen.

Further information is available at [Scarlet fever - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Yours faithfully



Mrs K Grewal-Joy
Headteacher