



Leverstock Green CE (VC) Primary School

Striving for excellence; caring for the individual.

Green Lane
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP2 4SA

01442 406520

admin@leverstockgreen.herts.sch.uk

30th April 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Scarlet Fever

This letter is to let you know that a number of children at Leverstock Green School have been diagnosed with scarlet fever.

We have discussed the situation with the local Health Protection Team and are writing to provide you with advice and further information.

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness but spreads very easily, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

The **symptoms** of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'.

You should contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible if you suspect that you or your child may have scarlet fever. Please ring beforehand so they can make sure you do not pass the disease to others in the waiting room.

A person with scarlet fever is infectious and **will require at least 24 hours of antibiotics prior to returning** to school. It is important that the full course of antibiotics is completed.

Complications: Children who have had **chickenpox** recently can develop a more serious infection, please remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high fever, cellulitis (skin infection) and arthritis (joint pain and swelling). If you are concerned seek medical assistance immediately.

If your child has an underlying condition which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed.



Leverstock Green CE (VC) Primary School

Striving for excellence; caring for the individual.

If you are **pregnant** there is no evidence to suggest that getting scarlet fever during pregnancy will harm your baby. However, you should contact your GP or midwife for further advice if you have had contact with anyone with a rash.

More information can be obtained from: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs V Burgess
Headteacher

FORGIVENESS