

December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may know from recent news and social media, there has been a national rise in cases of Scarlet Fever and invasive Group A Strep. Please read the following information carefully taken from [UKHSA update on scarlet fever and invasive Group A strep - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep).

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.

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement. Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

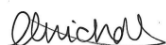
- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Good hand and respiratory hygiene are important for stopping the spread of many germs and viruses. By teaching your child how to wash their hands properly with soap for 20 seconds, using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, and keeping away from others when feeling unwell, they will be able to reduce the risk of picking up or spreading infections.

Please remember to call the Academy before 09:30 if your child is going to be absent. Please speak to a member of staff or leave a detailed voicemail on 01702 478379 or 01702 509205.

Further guidance can be found here: [Strep A and scarlet fever – what are they and what are the symptoms? Information for parents, schools, colleges and early years providers - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2022/12/01/strep-a-and-scarlet-fever-what-are-they-and-what-are-the-symptoms-information-for-parents-schools-colleges-and-early-years-providers/)

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Nicholls