



Dear Parents/Carers,

Scarlet Fever and Group A streptococcus

There have been a number of cases of scarlet fever reported across the borough and so the following advice has been produced by the Public Health consultants of Cheshire East.

Key Symptoms of Scarlet Fever

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- 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 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.

Key Messages: Action

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 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C 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

Headteacher: John D. Harrison B.A. (Hons.)

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Malbank School and Sixth Form College



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Other useful information

NHS Choices <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/> UKHSA Scarlet Fever Frequently Asked Questions <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scarlet-feversymptoms-diagnosis-treatment>

Kind Regards,

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