



GHYLLGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

& Resource Base for Deaf Children

The Gore, Basildon, Essex SS14 2BG

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Headteacher: Mr G. Capps

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs R. Tidiman

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L. Morley

6th December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been informed that a small number of children who attend Ghyllgrove School have been diagnosed with suspected/confirmed scarlet fever.

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, 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. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think you, or your child, have scarlet fever:

- see your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for **at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment**, to avoid spreading the infection.

Complications

Children who have had **chickenpox** recently are more likely to develop more serious infection during an outbreak of scarlet fever and so parents/carers should remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high fever, cellulitis (skin infection) and arthritis (joint pain and swelling). If you are concerned for any reason, please 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.

You can find more information in the factsheet that was sent earlier and has been attached again to this letter.

Keep safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. R. Tidiman and Mrs. L. Morley

We take data security very seriously and will only use the information provided for the purpose of the provision of Ghyllgrove Community Primary School. Data will be stored securely. To view our full data protection policy please see our school website.

