



December 2022

Dear Parents

We have all been deeply saddened to read about the tragic deaths of children across the country from invasive Group A Streptococcus (iGAS) infections. Group A “Strep” is a bacteria which often lives harmlessly on our skin but can also cause a variety of illnesses, most of them mild and non-invasive.

The school is aware of at least one case of Strep A within our school community currently.

Scarlet fever is a common type of Group A Strep infection, which is currently circulating at higher levels than is usual for the time of year. Symptoms of scarlet fever can include:

- sore throat
- high fever
- a pink or red rash with a rough sandpapery feel

If your child develops any of these symptoms then please keep them at home until they are feeling better.

If you have any concerns, contact NHS 111 or your GP for further advice.

The vast majority of childhood infections currently circulating are mild and easily treatable, and more severe infections (such as iGAS) are extremely rare.

Please find below the government guidance regarding Group A Streptococcus (iGAS).

[Group A streptococcal infections: guidance and data - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/group-a-streptococcal-infections-guidance-and-data)

Good handwashing is key to keeping infections down and so we would encourage all children to wash their hands regularly at school and to carry and use hand gel.

Yours faithfully

D J Gray
Executive Headteacher