RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION CARE

Our Ref: SZW/lr
7th December 2022

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Dear Parents/Carers,

In the last couple of days, schools have received notifications from Public Health England about the outbreak of Scarlet Fever in a small number of schools across the country.

We have all been deeply saddened to read about the tragic deaths of nine young children across the country from the Invasive Group A Streptococcus (iGAS) infection more commonly known as "Strep A".

Strep A is a bacterial infection which often lives harmlessly on our skin but can also cause a variety of illnesses, most of them mild and non-invasive. Scarlet Fever is a common type of Group A Strep infection, which is currently circulating at higher levels than is usual for this time of year.

Symptoms of Scarlet Fever 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 call NHS 111 or your GP for further medical advice.

Most childhood infections are mild and easily treatable and the more severe infections such as iGas are extremely rare.

Northants County Council and Public Health England are working closely with school settings to ensure that all our children are kept safe and can continue to learn.

Yours faithfully,

Scott Wade
Deputy Headteacher