



THE KING'S SCHOOL

The King's School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are aware, over the past week we have seen increased absence and a number of parents have reported that their children are suffering with Scarlet Fever. Please be assured that the health risks are low. Scarlet Fever is a relatively common and mild infectious illness that mostly affects children and is easily treated with antibiotics.

Despite the fact there is no statutory requirement to inform parents/carers or deviate from normal working practices, I feel it is crucial that communication from the school to parents/carers is clear and timely and out of courtesy wanted to provide you with an update. We are taking advice from Public Health England and I feel it is important that you are aware of the signs and symptoms.

Scarlet Fever can result in flu-like symptoms, including a high temperature of 38C or above, a sore throat and swollen neck glands (a large lump on the side of the neck). A rash appears a few days later. Further information on Scarlet Fever can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

To avoid the spread of the infection further within school, it is important that any students or staff with a diagnosis of Scarlet Fever stay off school for 24 hours after starting antibiotics or, if not on antibiotics, until their fever is gone. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing also remains an important step in preventing and controlling the spread of infection.

As with situations like this, there can often be details that are blown out of proportion. At the current time, we are only aware of a small number of confirmed cases of Scarlet Fever and the risk to students is low. Please be assured that the school is doing everything it can to minimise any small risk going forward and will continue to ensure that safeguarding students is paramount.

Should you require any further information please contact our Education Welfare Officer/Attendance Team.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Pinto
Acting Head of School