



**Garfield Primary**  
Today's children, tomorrow's future.

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Scarlet Fever**

The school would like to bring to you attention that there are a number of children who have been diagnosed with suspected/confirmed **Scarlet Fever**. Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it is 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. Followed by a fine red rash, which typically first appears, on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body.

The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth. If you think your child, have scarlet fever: see your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible. Please make sure your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.

**Your child will need to stay at home, away from school for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection.**

Children who have had chickenpox recently are more likely to develop more serious infection during an outbreak of scarlet fever and so parents 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 from GP or hospital doctor. It is important to encourage your child to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration, and ensure all your family and visitors to your home are able to wash their hands with soap (preferably liquid soap) and water to help prevent the spread of infection.

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

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