



Holy Family Catholic High School

Virgin's Lane, Thornton, Liverpool L23 4UL.
Tel: 0151 924 6451 Fax: 0151 932 1417
Headteacher: Mr M Symes BA(Hons), NPQH

Dear Parent / Carers,

You may have heard that there is an increase in scarlet fever in school age children in England. We understand that this is a worrying time for parents, but please only keep children away from school if they are experiencing symptoms as infections are still rare. 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. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think your child has scarlet fever:

- See your GP as soon as possible to start antibiotics
- Make sure that your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.
- Your child may return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics
- When reporting the absence to school, please state specifically if the condition has been confirmed by a doctor.

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.

Use this link from NHS England for further information [Scarlet Fever](#)

Many thanks for your continued support,

Claire Powell
Senior Leader in charge of attendance