



Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School

Hart Lane, Hartlepool, TS26 8NL

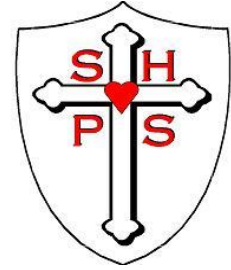
☎ Telephone: 01429 272684

E-mail: admin@hpsacredheart.org.uk

Website: www.sacredhearthartlepool.co.uk

Twitter: @SHPS_Hartlepool

Headteacher: Mrs A. Howell



SLAPPED CHEEK SYNDROME

This is so called because when a person is infected their cheeks appear slapped and are red, like a rash.

Because slap cheek symptoms are just like any other cold type virus, you may not be aware of the dangers during pregnancy.

During the first 20 weeks of pregnancy the virus can cause miscarriage if the pregnant woman is:

- ✚ exposed to the virus;
- ✚ contracts the virus.

Also during this time, the virus can also cause a rare condition known as Foetal Hydrops, which can cause congestive heart failure, a severe form of Oedema (a build-up of fluid in the body which causes the affected tissue to become swollen), due to severe anaemia. If you are pregnant you may wish to check with your midwife.

The virus is passed from one human to another through the air, in saliva or through close contact and cannot be treated with antibiotics. The best treatment is rest.

Symptoms

The incubation period for this virus is between one and three weeks and the person will be infectious for about a week before the illness actually becomes apparent. By the time symptoms are present, the person is no longer infectious:

- ✚ low-grade mild fever and flu-like symptoms;
- ✚ headache;
- ✚ stuffy or runny nose
- ✚ sore throat
- ✚ lethargy
- ✚ possible nausea
- ✚ abdominal pain
- ✚ diarrhoea
- ✚ adults sometimes develop aches and pains in the joints and in very rare cases, brain or heart and circulation problems.

If you are in any doubt, please contact your doctor.