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2nd December 2025

1st December 2025

Important Health Information - Impetigo and Scarlet Fever

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you about a few health matters affecting our school community.

Scarlet Fever

A small number of children have been diagnosed with *suspected or confirmed scarlet fever*. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness but requires treatment with antibiotics to prevent complications and reduce the risk of spreading to others.

Symptoms may include:

- Sore throat, headache, fever, nausea, or vomiting
- A fine red or pink rash, usually starting on the chest and stomach and spreading
- Flushed face with a pale area around the mouth
- On darker skin, the rash may be less visible in colour but will feel rough or sandpaper-like

If you suspect scarlet fever:

- Contact your GP or call NHS III immediately
- Ensure your child completes the full course of any prescribed antibiotics
- Keep your child at home for at least 24 hours after starting antibiotics and inform school.

Impetigo

We have suspected *cases of impetigo* in school. Impetigo is a common bacterial skin infection that is highly contagious, especially among young children. It is usually not serious and responds well to treatment.















Symptoms include:

- Red sores or blisters (may be less visible on darker skin tones)
- Sores that burst and leave golden-brown crusty patches
- Patches may look like cornflakes stuck to the skin
- Sores may increase in size or spread
- Itching or mild discomfort

If your child is diagnosed with impetigo:

- Keep them off school until all sores are crusted over **OR** for 48 hours after starting treatment (antibiotics or hydrogen peroxide cream).
- Impetigo spreads through direct contact or by sharing towels, flannels, or eating utensils.

If you are concerned about symptoms, please consult your GP or NHS 111.

Additional Guidance:

- Scarlet fever is caused by Group A Streptococcus, which can also cause strep throat, mild fever, or skin infections like impetigo. If anyone in your household develops similar symptoms within the next 30 days, please see your GP and take a copy of this letter.
- Children who have recently had chickenpox or those with weakened immune systems should take extra
 precautions and seek medical advice promptly if concerned.

For further information, please visit: Scarlet Fever Guidance - GOV.UK

Local Health Protection Team: 0344 225 3560 (option 2)

We appreciate your attention and support in helping keep our school community safe and healthy.

Kind regards,

Mr John Howe Head Teacher Seaburn Dene Primary School











