



ZGO/JBI
8th December 2022

Dear Blaise Families,

As you will have seen in the news the country is seeing an increase in the number of cases of Group A streptococcus (Strep A) compared to normal. If you suspect that your child may have Strep A they should not attend school and you should contact your doctor, or 999 in an emergency. If your child has been confirmed as having Strep A, please do let us know via the normal attendance reporting procedures. Please note that there is no reason for anyone who is not unwell to remain at home if someone else in the school has confirmed Strep A. If children are well, they should be in school.

What are Scarlet Fever and Strep A?

Scarlet Fever is caused by bacteria called Group A streptococci (Strep A). The bacteria usually cause a mild infection, however on very rare occasions the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called Group A Strep. Good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene are the best way to stop nearly all bugs. Symptoms of Strep A/ scarlet fever can include a sore throat, headache and fever, along with a fine pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. The rash will be more difficult to detect on darker skin.

What should parents do?

If your child becomes unwell with these symptoms they should stay at home and you should contact your GP or NHS 111 which operates a 24/7 service. Early treatment of scarlet fever is very important, so it is important that you make contact if your child has the symptoms above.

Where can I find more information.

More information can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your time and support, as per the national press, there is no need for undue concern, however it is important that we all keep one another safe.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any further queries.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Z Giblin
Associate Assistant Headteacher

