



Hollin Primary School
Waverley Road
Middleton
Manchester
M24 6JG

Phone: 0161 643 5148

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Email: office@hollin.rochdale.sch.uk

Web: www.hollin.rochdale.sch.uk

Headteacher: David Fenton

Deputy Headteacher: Paula Noon

Thursday 8th December 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Staffing update

When we break up for Christmas, Mrs Tomkins (teaching assistant in Year 3H) will leave Hollin to take up a position at another school. We are sad to see her leave and thank her for all of the time she invested for the children and families of Hollin.

We have recruited to this post and will welcome an experienced teaching assistant, Mrs Helen Dean.

In addition, Mrs Kelly (additional teacher in Year 5) and some other members of agency supply staff, who we have welcomed for a period of time, will leave Hollin at Christmas.

These positions will not be filled by any other staff.

Unfortunately, this is the true reality of increased costs and additional financial pressures which are hitting school budgets extremely hard.

As the cost of living continues to rise, I am committed to helping families as much as possible:

- Breakfast Club costs are some of the lowest around and have not been increased for a number of years.
- Trips and visits are offered at no cost to parents/carers.
- After school multi-sports is offered at no cost to parents/carers.
- The parental contribution for the Year 6 residential is kept as low as possible.



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Christmas Dates



Monday 12th December

2pm Year 1 & 2 Christmas performance

Tuesday 13th December

9:30am Nursery Christmas performance

Christmas Dinner

2pm Year 1 & 2 Christmas performance

Wednesday 14th December

9:30am Reception Christmas performance

Thursday 15th December

Magic show in the hall for Year 1B, 1RD, 2C, 3H, 4G & 4T

Friday 16th December

Skylight Circus for Year 5, Year 6M and Year 6MC

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr David Fenton
Headteacher



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Headteachers have been asked to share the following information about scarlet fever. Public Health have advised that there is a local web page with information on for your information <https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/strep>

We are writing to inform you of a recent increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the signs, symptoms and the actions to be taken if you think that you or your child might have scarlet fever.

Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.



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Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS). Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection.

As a parent, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable
- Call 999 or go to A&E if:
- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Stop the spread

During periods of high incidence of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.