

# DOTHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Head Teacher: Becca Butler**

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Health Update - Scarlet Fever

This is an update from the Health Protection Hub

We are starting to see cases of scarlet fever again in Telford schools, so we're bringing the matter to your attention to raise awareness.

What is really important to prevent scarlet fever potentially turning from a mild illness to something life-threatening, is early diagnosis and treatment. Therefore, making parents aware of the signs and symptoms and any cases you may have is important.

### Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

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 pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'. As the child improves peeling of the skin can occur. NHS information, including photos of the condition, is available on the NHS Scarlet Fever Website.

If you have concerns you are advised to seek advice from their GP.

Best wishes

Becca Butler

Head teacher



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