



5<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Families,

## SCARLET FEVER

We are writing to make you aware that there have been several confirmed cases of scarlet fever in Lambeth recently.

***Please note that there are no confirmed cases of scarlet fever at Christ Church, this letter is for information only.***

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it is highly contagious and should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

The symptoms of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which feels like sandpaper. On darker skin it can be more difficult to spot the rash, but you can still feel it. This rash typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

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

- See your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible.
- Make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.
- Stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection.

If your child has an underlying condition which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP to discuss whether any additional measures are needed.

Further advice and information can also be obtained from

[www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever)

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Mitchell  
Executive Headteacher