



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

7 December 2022

Parents & Carers  
All St Ralph Sherwin CMAT Academies

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the rising number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Strep A is featuring in the news.

The UK Healthy Security Agency (UKHSA) has recently issued updated guidance for Strep A and Scarlet Fever, which can be read here: [UKHSA Update on Invasive Group A Strep and Scarlet Fever - Gov. UK](#)

We also have a number of cases across our communities and ask that you please use this letter as a reminder of the symptoms to look out for in your children. If your child displays any of the symptoms listed below, the UKHSA advise you call NHS 111 or your GP, as early treatment with antibiotics is important and will help reduce the risk of further illness:

- A sore throat
- Headache
- Fever
- Fine, pinkish or red body rash, which feels like sandpaper. The rash can be harder to see on darker skin but will still have that sandpapery feel.

If your child is diagnosed as having a Scarlet Fever or Strep A infection, please notify their school and keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to prevent the infection spreading to others.

Good hand and respiratory hygiene are important in preventing the spread of many bugs so ensuring everyone washes their hands properly, with soap, for 20 seconds and uses a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes will help reduce the risk of picking up or spreading infections.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Gritton  
CEO