



18 February 2015

Dear colleague

I am writing to keep you informed about the national increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever.

Scarlet fever is characterised by a rash, red swollen tongue and flushed cheeks and is sometimes confused with measles, though unlike measles is easily treatable with antibiotics. However it is very contagious.

I have attached a series of frequently asked questions (FAQ) provided by Public Health England, for your information. This includes a list of symptoms, details of diagnosis and treatment and where to get more information. If diagnosed the exclusion period is for 24 hours after antibiotics treatment has commenced, to prevent the spread of the infection.

Should any parents or children notify you of a 'confirmed' case (i.e verified by our Public Health England (PHE) colleagues at Chilton) PHE will have already conducted a risk assessment and will advise you if there are any further actions required. You do not need to inform PHE.

If a parent/carer suspects a 'probable' case please ask them to check on the NHS Choices website first, then if still concerned to phone their GP or NHS 111.

Yours sincerely

Dr Lise Llewellyn FFPH
Strategic Director of Public Health (Berkshire)
Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Time Square, Market Street
Bracknell RG12 1JD
Tel: 01344 352749

ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING
Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Time Square, Market Street, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1JD
T: 01344 352000 F: 01344 351596 Minicom: 01344 352045 www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk