

Executive Headteacher: Ms Sarah Jane Bellerby

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We have recently received information and guidance from the public health team at Tower Hamlets regarding Strep A.

I can confirm that we have no cases at Mulberry Wood Wharf.

### Scarlet fever advice for schools:

In general:

- Encourage children, young people and staff to implement good hand hygiene practices
- Encourage staff, children and young people to implement good respiratory hygiene practices (such as catch it, bin it, kill it)
- Advise parent or carer to seek advice from their general practitioner as below

### Scarlet Fever:

If we were to have one case within our setting, we would exclude the affected individual until 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. If no antibiotics have been administered, the individual will be infectious for two to three weeks and should be excluded for this period.

If we had an outbreak of two or more scarlet fever cases within 10 days of each other and the affected individuals have a link, such as being in the same class or year group, we would contact our local health protection team.

### Parent advice:

Please read the following: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

In very rare circumstances, this bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause serious illness – called invasive Group A Strep (iGAS). This is still uncommon; however, it is important that parents are on the lookout for symptoms and see a doctor as quickly as possible so that their child can be treated and we can stop the infection becoming serious. Make sure you talk to a health professional if your child is showing signs of deteriorating after a bout of scarlet fever, a sore throat, or a respiratory infection.

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, 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

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- 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 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your child 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

Kind regards

Sarah Jane Bellerby