

# Viking Academy Trust

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Chilton Lane  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Strep A Infection Awareness**

I do not wish to alarm you at all but given the news circulating at present regarding the seriousness in a very small number of Strep A infections, I felt it important that I write to you.

Strep A infections are extremely common, particularly at this time of year. There are several strains, including infections such as impetigo, chicken pox, scarlet fever and others. These are all easily treated with over-the-counter medications or in some cases, antibiotics.

Where you need to be extra vigilant is if a child's temperature rises above 38 degrees and they have a sore throat and very achy muscles, feeling very unwell. Again, this is very easily treated with antibiotics, and these can be distributed by your GP quickly if required.

Media reports have focused on children who have developed invasive Group A Streptococcal (iGAS). This is extremely rare, yet we must remain cautious. Therefore, if your child develops the following symptoms at school, office staff will check your child's temperature:

- Sore throat
- Aching muscles
- Rash

If your child's temperature is high, the office will contact you to come to collect your child.

All Viking schools have introduced extra cleaning procedures and staff are encouraging regular handwashing during the school day. Please can you reinforce this with your child at home as well.

Please take the time to read the attached parent information leaflet that the Health Security Agency have sent to us, which will provide you with more information on Strep A infections.

If your child does develop one of the infections mentioned above and is treated by the GP with antibiotics, we do request that you keep your child at home for the first 24 hours of treatment.

## **'One Childhood, One Chance'**



Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by Viking Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

I do hope this information does not alarm you as that is not my intention, I would just like to make you aware.

With best wishes,

Claire Roby  
Central Administration Manager  
Viking Academy Trust

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