



FLEECEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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“Children First”

Headteacher: Antoinette Goldwater

07th October 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

A child in the nursery has developed invasive Group A Streptococcal (iGAS). We have taken advice from UK Health Security Agency and there is no reason to make any changes in the nursery routine or for children to be kept at home if well.

The most common infections caused by GAS are Scarlet Fever and Strep throat. Symptoms are mild and can include sore throat, mild fever and minor skin infections. If your child has these **symptoms in the next 30 days**, then we would advise that you take them (along with this letter) to see their GP.

Their GP can arrange for the child to be **tested if necessary, and then treated with antibiotics**. If the GP thinks that the child has GAS infection, the child will need to remain off nursery for 24 hours following the start of the antibiotics.

In **very rare cases**, this infection can be more serious and cause invasive disease, this can occur when bacteria enter parts of the body where it is not normally found. This can happen when a child has sores or breaks in the skin (for example from scratching chicken pox lesions/eczema) or when a child has a decreased ability to fight infection. Although the risk of another case of invasive disease in the nursery is very small, it is important to be aware of the signs and symptoms of invasive Group A Streptococcal infection, which are detailed below:

- High fever
- Severe muscle aches
- Localised muscle pain
- Unexplained diarrhoea or vomiting

If someone becomes ill with some of these signs or symptoms, please seek urgent medical help

We remain in contact with Public Health England in case there are further cases. If you have concerns, you can speak to a member of the North East and North Central London Health Protection Team on 0203-837-7084 during normal working hours quoting the reference number 4214375.

Further Information is also available at NHS Choices:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/streptococcal-infections/pages/introduction.aspx> Or on our website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Your child's annual nasal flu vaccination is due; Please Click here for more details

Yours sincerely

Antoinette Goldwater