



19 April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Chickenpox and slap cheek

The information referred to below was sent to KS1 parents/carers yesterday.

We thought it would be helpful to let you all know that there are currently a number of cases of chickenpox and slap cheek within Key Stage 1. Today we have had more confirmed cases of slap cheek in other year groups.

As you know, Miss Dell is pregnant, and we also have children with low immunity in school. In order to keep everyone safe, please follow the NHS guidance and let us know should your child develop chickenpox or slap cheek.

By way of summary the signs to look out for are as follows:

1. Chickenpox: Itchy red spots and rash anywhere on the body

Before or after the rash appears, you child might also get:

- a high temperature
- aches and pains
- loss of appetite

Please note that children with chickenpox should stay at home and not return to school until all the spots have fully scabbed over.

Even if your child has had the chickenpox vaccination, please bear in mind that they may still get chickenpox.

2. Slapped cheek: Red rash on cheeks (typically) and later on body

Symptoms may include:

- a high temperature
- a runny nose and sore throat
- a headache

Please note that your child is infectious in the period prior to the rash appearing and we would therefore kindly request that they stay at home should they be feeling unwell.

Thank you for your understanding and vigilance.

Kind regards

**Katharine Ellwood
Headteacher**

