

12 May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Chicken Pox

We are writing to inform you that we have more than one confirmed case of chicken pox in Reception.

Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the procedure for when to keep your child at home and when it is appropriate to send them back to school, should your child develop the symptoms.

Chicken pox is a mild and common childhood illness caused by a virus called varicella zoster. It is most common in children under the age of 10 and is contagious.

The person is contagious from 1 to 2 days before the spots appear until the spots have crusted over (usually 5-6 days after the spots appear).

Groups of people that are most at risk of serious problems if they catch chicken pox are newborn babies, pregnant women and those with a weakened immune system. Therefore, it is important, if your child has chicken pox, to keep them at home while they are contagious.

If we suspect a child has chicken pox at school, parents will be contacted and asked to collect them.

All children should remain at home until all chicken pox spots have crusted over to avoid further spread of the illness.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Yours sincerely

Oliver Kelly
Phase 1 Deputy Head