

Subject: information about Scarlet Fever, Strep A and invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

Further to my letter earlier this week colleagues at UKHSA have provided the attached letter for sharing with all nurseries and schools, providing a helpful reminder of the signs and symptoms of scarlet fever and the key infection control advice.

UKHSA are currently seeing a high level of activity for advice and support with possible scarlet fever outbreaks and the recent increase in Streptococcal A infections and are now asking settings to report suspected outbreaks by email to gmanchPU@ukhsa.gov.uk and to **complete and return the enclosed minimum dataset to assist with the assessment of notifications**. The Guidelines for management of scarlet fever outbreaks in nurseries and schools have not changed.

(Note: An outbreak of scarlet fever is 2 or more probable or confirmed scarlet fever cases attending the same school / nursery or other childcare setting notified within 10 days of each other.)

In addition, UKSHA has provided a template letter that nurseries and schools may wish to send to parents, sharing key messages on the signs, symptoms and actions to be taken if you think that you or your child might have scarlet fever, and good hygiene practices to help stop the spread of infections.

In the meantime, should you require further advice and guidance this is available from:

- Bolton Community Infection Prevention and Control Team (based at Bolton Hospital) for help with advice and guidance on measures to prevent the spread of infection Tel: 01204 390 982 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm) or
- Your local Health Protection Team at Bolton Council for general enquiries healthprotection@bolton.gov.uk Tel: 01204 337 221 (Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm)
- UKHSA practical guide for staff on managing cases of infectious diseases in education and childcare settings [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education)

Best wishes,

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