

Wednesday 10th May, 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Re: Chicken Pox

We are writing to inform you that we are continuing to experience multiple confirmed cases of Chicken Pox across the school. Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you, once again, 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).

<u>Groups of people that are most at risk of serious problems if they catch chicken pox are newborn babies, pregnant</u> <u>women and those with a weakened immune system.</u> These people should seek medical advice as soon as they are exposed to chickenpox or if they develop chickenpox symptoms.

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.

Please contact your GP if:

- Your child is is seriously ill or if they develop any abnormal symptoms such as:
 - \circ $\;$ the blisters becoming infected
 - $\circ \quad$ a pain in their chest or difficulty breathing

<u>All children should remain at home until all chicken pox spots have completely crusted over (typically 5-6 days) to avoid further spread of the illness.</u>

We appreciate your understanding on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Z. McIntosh Acting Head of School

BJS FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

Bonneville, Jessop & Stockwell Primary Schools

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