

12 October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

We have confirmed cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth and Impetigo in Rosen class (Ladybird Cluster).

Hand, Foot and Mouth disease is easily passed on to other people. It is spread in coughs, sneezes and poo.

To reduce the risk of spreading Hand, Foot and Mouth disease:

- wash your hands often with warm soapy water – and teach children to do
- use tissues to trap germs when you cough or sneeze
- bin used tissues as quickly as possible
- do not share towels or household items – like cups or cutlery
- wash soiled bedding and clothing on a hot wash

We have arranged for a deep clean of the class and nearby toilets.

Further information can be found on the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease/>

Impetigo occurs when the skin becomes infected with bacteria. The bacteria can be spread easily through close contact with someone who has the infection, such as through direct physical contact, or by sharing towels or flannels.

As the condition does not cause any symptoms until four to 10 days after initial exposure to the bacteria, it is often easily spread to others unintentionally. Children and people with diabetes or a weakened immune system – either due to a condition such as HIV or a treatment such as chemotherapy – are most at risk of developing impetigo.

The advice below can also help to prevent the spread of the infection:

- don't share flannels, sheets or towels with anyone who has impetigo – wash them at a high temperature after use
- wash the sores with soap and water and cover them loosely with a gauze bandage or clothing
- avoid touching or scratching the sores, or letting others touch them – it may help to ensure your nails are kept clean and short
- avoid contact with newborn babies, preparing food, playing contact sports, or going to the gym – until the risk of infection has passed

- wash your hands frequently – particularly after touching infected skin
- washable toys should also be washed – wipe non-washable soft toys thoroughly with a cloth that has been wrung out in detergent and warm water and allowed to dry completely

If you think that the infection has spread to someone else, make sure they're seen by a GP as soon as possible.

More information can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/impetigo/>

Yours sincerely



Sharon Glover
PA to Headteacher