



To all Schools/nurseries/child-minders in Avon, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire

05 March 2014

Re: Scarlet Fever – Increase in Scarlet Fever incidence

We are writing to inform you of an increase in the notifications of scarlet fever. These increases are above what we would normally expect at this time of year.

Scarlet Fever tends to be more common in the winter and spring and peaks around end of March/early April Therefore, you may still come across cases over the coming weeks.

Scarlet fever is mainly a childhood disease and is most common between the ages of two and eight years it is usually treated with antibiotics and children need to be excluded from childminder, nursery or school to help minimise spreading the infection.

Children can return to their childminder, nursery or school once they feel better and have completed 24 hrs of antibiotic treatment. If a school, nursery or childminder suspects an outbreak of any infectious disease, they should inform their local Health Protection team.

Over leaf is an information leaflet on Scarlet Fever which you can copy and give to parents if you wish.

You can contact your PHE Health Protection team on 0845 504 8668, option 1.

Yours sincerely

Dr Mark Evans
Head of Health Protection
Avon, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire PHE Centre