



Willow Lane
Community Primary School



Willow Lane CP School
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Appletree Nursery School
Milking Stile Lane,
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Head: Lucy Naylor
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22.9.22

Dear Parent / Guardian

Re: Invasive group A Streptococcus. iGAS

We have been informed that a child who attends Willow Lane Community Primary School has been diagnosed with Invasive Group A streptococcal disease (iGAS).

We have sought advice from UK Health Security Agency Northwest Health Protection Team. They have advised that there is no reason for children to be kept at home if well and school activities can continue as normal.

Group A Streptococcus (GAS) is a bacterium often found in the throat and on the skin. Most GAS infections are relatively mild illnesses such as "strep throat", scarlet fever or impetigo. On rare occasions, these bacteria can cause other severe and even life-threatening infection. The most important thing to be aware of are the early signs and symptoms of invasive disease which are shown in the box below.

Early signs and symptoms of invasive group A streptococcal disease

- High Fever
- Severe muscle aches
- Localised muscle tenderness
- Redness at the site of a wound

If your child becomes ill with some of these signs or symptoms, please immediately attend A&E (with this letter) for emergency assessment.

If your child develops a mild infection such as a sore throat, skin infection or rash, we advise that you take them (along with this letter) to see their GP. The GP can arrange



for your child to be tested if necessary and treated with antibiotics. If so your child will also need to remain off school/nursery for 24 hours following the start of the antibiotics.

Infection control advice:

The Health Protection Team have advised us on hygiene measures to help prevent spread infection within our school / nursery. Parents/guardians can also help with this by reminding children of the importance of coughing / sneezing into tissues and placing these in the bin, washing hands regularly and ensuring any breaks to the skin are covered with a waterproof plaster/dressing before attending school / nursery.

Further information:

You can find more information at:

- UKHSA Group A streptococcus <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/group-a-streptococcal-infections-guidance-and-data>

If you have any further questions, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Naylor
Headteacher

