



**Challenge, Learn, Achieve**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below guidance from Public Health England regarding Scarlet Fever (sometimes known as Scarletina).

### **Signs and symptoms of Scarlet Fever**

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A streptococcus (GAS). The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on the skin of some Black and Asian people, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'. As the child improves peeling of the skin can occur.

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, although patients can develop complications if left untreated. If you have any concerns at all, please contact your family doctor as soon as possible for advice.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Jonathan Kirkham  
Headteacher  
Sandfield Primary School  
Guildford Education Partnership

Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Kirkham  
Stoke Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4DT Tel : 01483 566586  
Email: [reception@sandfield.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:reception@sandfield.surrey.sch.uk) Website: [www.sandfield.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.sandfield.surrey.sch.uk)  
Part of GEP Academies  
A charity exempt from registration and a company limited by guarantee 07649091

