

St Christopher Primary School



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4th October 2016

Dear Parents

Slapped Cheek

We have had a case of Slapped Cheek in school. This is quite common at this time of year and nothing to be too concerned about. It is a mild illness which usually passes without the need for treatment. However, some people with other illnesses can be at risk and we have pupils and staff in school who are vulnerable if they contract the virus.

We would like to ask you to be vigilant in spotting the **early signs** of slapped cheek and keep your child at home to avoid the spread of the infection.

The first stages are characterised by flu like symptoms such as a high temperature, sore throat, and headache, upset stomach, feeling tired and itchy skin. It is during this stage that your child is the most contagious and ideally will need to be kept away from school. After three to seven days of the onset of the symptoms your child will then develop a bright red rash on both cheeks. The third stage of the illness may see the rash spread to chest, stomach, arms and thighs but your child will no longer be contagious during this time.

If your child has any unexplained rash, then we would ask that you get this checked out by a doctor or nurse before returning your child to school.

In order to protect the health and wellbeing of all our pupils and staff who may be at risk we would appreciate your co-operation and hope we can rely on your help.

Many thanks.
Yours sincerely

Mrs Robinson
Headteacher