

SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

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Mission Statement: To live, love and learn in the footprints of Jesus.

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Scunthorpe

DN174HL

Dear Families,

Chickenpox

We have become aware of suspected cases of chickenpox in the local area and within school. Chickenpox is common in children and most usually get better within one to two weeks. For others, with a weakened immune system, it can be more dangerous. Chickenpox is highly infectious and spreads by respiratory secretions or by direct contact with fluid from blisters.

Chickenpox has a sudden onset with fever, runny nose, cough and a generalised rash. The spotty rash starts with fluid-filled blisters which then scab over and eventually drop off. Some people have only a few spots, but other people can have spots that cover their entire body. In most people, the blisters crust up and fall off naturally within one to 2 weeks.

Chickenpox in children is considered a mild illness. There is no specific treatment but there are pharmacy remedies that may alleviate symptoms; these include paracetamol to relieve fever, and calamine lotion and cooling gels to ease itching.

If you suspect that your child may have chickenpox, please inform the school office and keep him/her at home until the blisters have dried/crusted over and he/she feels well enough to return. Anyone infected with chickenpox should avoid contact with other people for at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over. Please seek immediate medical advice if your child becomes severely unwell or if he/she develops any abnormal symptoms such as:

blisters becoming infected

a pain in the chest or difficulty breathing

If you - or anyone in your household - may be at higher risk (i.e. pregnant women, newborn babies, people with a weakened immune system), you should seek medical advice as soon as you believe you are - or may have been - exposed to chickenpox or if you develop chickenpox symptoms.

For more information and guidance about chickenpox, please visit the NHS information page: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A Dawson













