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30th January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to inform you that we have had a reported case of 'Shingles' within school.

Most people have chickenpox in childhood, but after the illness has gone the varicella-zoster virus remains inactive (dormant) in the nervous system. The immune system keeps the virus in check, but it can be reactivated later in life and cause shingles.

It is not possible to catch shingles from someone with the condition or from someone with chickenpox; however, you can catch chickenpox from someone with shingles if you have not had chickenpox before, but this is uncommon.

Pregnant women or those with a weakened immune system should try to avoid close contact and seek medical advice from their GP.

If you suspect your child may have the infection please seek medical advice from your doctor. Children may return to school once treatment has started, and provided the rash is covered by clothing and is not weeping. Please inform the school if you have a case confirmed.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Sweet
Headteacher

