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Headteacher: Mrs A Woodhead B.Ed (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers

27 November 2018

We have been informed that one of our children has been admitted to hospital with suspected septicaemia; this may be caused by the meningococcal bacteria.

I have spoken with the Public Health England clinician who has advised me that septicaemia is an uncommon illness. The meningococcal germ does not pass very easily from person to person. The people who are close contacts of the pupil concerned have been given an antibiotic to help prevent further spread. At this stage there is no need for any other pupil or staff member in our school to have antibiotics.

We want to reassure you that the risk of any other children being affected is low. There is no need for any other children or staff member to stay away from classes, or for the school to close.

Meningococcal septicaemia is an uncommon illness, however it can be serious and it is always important for all parents to be aware of the early signs of Meningococcal infection. These include;

- Severe headache
- A high temperature and/or vomiting
- Stiff neck, aching limbs or joints
- A dislike of bright lights (photophobia)
- Drowsiness or confusion
- Muscle pains – especially in the legs
- A fine purple rash which does not fade when pressed with a glass

Not all these symptoms need to be present in all cases, please remember that people with meningitis can become seriously ill very quickly and should seek urgent medical attention.

If your son/daughter displays any of these signs, please seek medical attention urgently and show the doctor this letter.

Further general information about meningitis may be obtained from:

NHS: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Meningitis/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Meningitis Now: www.meningitisnow.org Tel: 0808810388

Meningitis Research Foundation: <http://www.meningitis.org/>

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Woodhead
Headteacher