



# Canadian International School of Hong Kong

香港加拿大國際學校



Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians of 2E,

A student in your child's class has been diagnosed with Scarlet Fever, it is a contagious childhood disease caused by the Group A Streptococcus bacteria, the same bacteria that causes strep throat. As a precaution, please do not send your child to school if they have the following symptoms.

The predominant symptom is a rash that looks like a bad sunburn with tiny bumps that feels like sandpaper. In most cases, the rash begins 1-2 days after a sore throat and usually appears on the neck and face, leaving an unaffected area around the mouth. The rash may then spread to the rest of the body. By the sixth day of the infection, the rash usually fades but the affected skin may begin to peel.

Other symptoms of Scarlet fever include: reddened sore throat, fever above 38.3°C/101°F, and swollen glands in the neck. The tonsils, back of the throat and tongue may be covered with a whitish coating, leading to the name "strawberry tongue".

Scarlet fever is spread through nasal and oral secretions so good hand-washing is encouraged. Scarlet fever will usually resolve without treatment but a doctor-prescribed antibiotic can shorten the duration of the illness.

Please contact your doctor if your child suddenly develops a rash, especially if it is accompanied by a fever, sore throat or swollen glands. If you have any health-related concerns regarding the grade, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

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