

Barncroft Primary School

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This letter is available in larger print format if required

27th April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been informed that a small number of children who attend Barncroft Primary School have been diagnosed with suspected **slapped cheek syndrome**. Public Health England, South East have provided the following advice:

Slapped Cheek Syndrome

Slapped cheek syndrome is common in children and should clear up on its own within 3 weeks.

Symptoms can include a high temperature, runny nose, sore throat or headache. A rash may appear between 1 and 3 days after becoming unwell. The rash usually fades after two weeks but it can last up to a month. Adults do not always develop a rash but may experience joint pain and stiffness.

Slapped cheek syndrome is caused by a parvovirus, it spreads from person to person when people cough or sneeze. It is most contagious before the onset of the rash.

If you think you have slapped cheek syndrome there is normally no need to see your GP. If your child feels unwell and has a fever you should keep him/her away from school. However, your child may return to school once they are well enough to do so, even if a rash is present, as the people are more infectious before the rashes appear

Most adults will have been exposed to the virus and will be immune. If you think you have **slapped cheek syndrome and you are pregnant** there is a very small risk of complications. You should arrange to see your GP or antenatal service for advice.

You can find more information on slapped cheek syndrome on **NHS choices**: www.nhs.uk

Yours faithfully

R Loader
Administration Officer



The Barncroft Vision: To be an inclusive school in which all children enjoy an outstanding learning experience, make good progress and leave us as responsible happy citizens.

