



10th June 2016

As-salaamu alaykum (peace be with you)

Dear Parent/Carers,

We are writing to inform you that there has been a confirmed case of chickenpox at The Olive School, Hackney; therefore we would like to provide you with some information and take this opportunity to remind you of the procedure for when to keep your child at home and when it is appropriate to send them back to school, should your child develop the symptoms of chickenpox.

Chickenpox is a common childhood illness. Fever and cold symptoms are often the first signs of illness and are followed by the appearance of the typical rash. The rash starts as small pink bumps, often around the neck, ears, back and stomach. These develop a little water blister, which in turn becomes yellow and oozy and ultimately crusty as it dries. Chickenpox is spread from person to person by virus shed from the nose or throat as droplets or by direct contact. People may have only a few spots or may be virtually covered with them. In children it is usually a relatively mild illness however occasionally complications develop.

Groups of people that are most at risk of serious problems if they catch chicken pox are newborn babies, pregnant women and those with a weakened immune system; therefore it is important, if your child has chicken pox, to keep them at home while they are contagious.

Children with chickenpox should not attend school until scabs are dry; this is usually five to seven days after the appearance of the rash. Children with spots that are crusted and dried can safely attend school. Should any child return to school before this time, parents will be contacted and asked to collect them and take them back home.

We appreciate your understanding on this and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Yours sincerely,

Caterina Park

Mrs Caterina Park
Principal