

Ryedene Primary School and Nursery

'Growing together to succeed'

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Head of School: Mr A. Toomer

Chair of Governors: Mr S. Robson



Thursday 1st October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

There have been confirmed cases of chickenpox in Ryedene Primary School and Nursery

What this means for your child

- if your child has no symptoms, they can keep going to school or nursery as normal
- chickenpox is usually mild and most children get better on their own, though some children may have complications

We are sharing this information so you know what to look out for and what to do if your child becomes unwell.

What to do if your child has chickenpox

- keep your child at home to stop it spreading
- tell your nursery / school, so they can help protect others
- if you are unsure, contact NHS 111 or your GP
- help your child rest and drink plenty of fluids
- give your child paracetamol if they have a fever

Your child should stay at home:

- for at least 5 days after the rash starts, **AND** until all the spots have formed scab

Once spots have scabbed, the risk to others is much lower and they can return to school / nursery.

When to get urgent help

 Get medical advice quickly (call NHS 111) if:

- the symptoms get worse, such as red, hot or painful skin around the spots (redness may be harder to see on brown or black skin)
- your child is not drinking enough or shows signs of dehydration (such as fewer wet nappies, very dry mouth, or no tears when crying)
- you or your child has any other symptoms you're worried about

Please be aware: children can get more unwell if they have chickenpox at the same time as scarlet fever. You can visit the NHS website for more information. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

Trust your instincts: seek help if you are worried.

The chickenpox vaccine Young children are now offered the MMRV vaccine, which protects against measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox (varicella). Further information is available on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine/>.

More information Read the chickenpox factsheet included at the end of this letter. You can also visit the NHS website. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Yours sincerely,

Mr A. Toomer
Head of School



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