



'Growing & Learning Together'

Watlington Community Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs C. Chapman

14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a confirmed case of chicken pox in Chestnut and Walnut Class.

Chicken pox is a mild and common childhood illness caused by a virus called varicella zoster. It is most common in children under the age of 10 and is contagious. It causes a blister-like rash, itching, tiredness, and fever lasting an average of 4 to 6 days. Most children recover without any problems. The person is contagious from 1 to 2 days before the spots appear until the spots have crusted over (usually 5-6 days after the spots appear).

Once someone has had the chickenpox infection they will not usually get the infection again, although it is possible have chicken pox twice.

Chickenpox can lead to complications for pregnant women who have never had the infection before. Also people who are on immunosuppressive treatment for cancer, following an organ transplant, or as a result of another condition might be at risk of infection with complications. Therefore, it is important, if your child has chicken pox, to keep them at home while they are contagious.

If we suspect a child has chicken pox at school, parents will be contacted and asked to collect them. All children should remain at home until all chicken pox spots have crusted over to reduce the spread of this virus. If you would like more information on chickenpox, information can also be sourced from NHS 111 or <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/pages/introduction.aspx>

Please may I also take this opportunity to remind you if your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, please keep them off school for the full 48 hours to reduce the chance of any virus spreading.

We appreciate your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Chapman

Headteacher