



# Pilgrims' Way Primary School

## Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Children's Centre

Manor Grove, London, SE15 1EF

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7<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Chickenpox

We are writing to inform you that we have confirmed cases of Chickenpox in your child's class. Therefore, we would like to 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.

Chickenpox 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. 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).

Groups of people that are most at risk of serious problems if they catch Chickenpox are newborn babies, pregnant women and those with a weakened immune system.

Therefore, it is important, if your child has Chickenpox, to keep them at home while they are contagious. If we suspect a child has Chickenpox at school, parents will be contacted and asked to collect them. Children should remain at home until all Chickenpox spots have completely crusted over (typically 5-6 days) to avoid further spread of the illness.

To seek further advice, or if your child develops more severe symptoms, please contact your GP.

We appreciate your understanding on this.

Yours sincerely,

Zoe Simpson