



OESD HeadStart/ECEAP/Early Head Start
EXPOSURE NOTICE

Date:

To: All Parents

From: Your Child's Classroom

Subject: **STREP THROAT and SCARLET FEVER**

Your Child has been exposed to strep throat. Please watch for signs of it in the next 2 to 5 days.

Appearance: Sudden sore, red throat and fever. Upset stomach, headache, red tongue and swollen glands in the neck may occur. Scarlet Fever may accompany strep throat. A rash of fine red bumps that feel like sandpaper usually appear on the neck, chest, groin, thighs, elbows and behind the knees. Other symptoms may include flushed cheeks and paleness around the mouth. There may be some skin peeling (usually fingers and toes) following the rash.

Cause: Streptococcus Bacteria. Strep is a very common bacterial infection in children.

Spread: Through airborne droplets from the nose and throat by coughing and sneezing. Touching mucus from the nose or saliva. Kissing on the lips. Sharing food, eating utensils and mouthed toys.

Treatment: If your child has the above symptoms, see his/her health care provider immediately. Strep throat is diagnosed by an exam and swab of the throat for a quick lab test or culture. If it is strep throat, most likely antibiotics will be prescribed. It is very important that the child take all the medication ordered or the bacteria may not be killed and the strep throat could return.

Return to Class: Follow the health care provider's recommendation. After a full 24 hours on the antibiotic and the fever is gone, the child should not be contagious. Before returning to school, the child should feel well enough to participate in the normal classroom activities.

If you have questions, please contact your classroom's Family/Health Advocate, the Health Program Manager 360-478-6878, or the Kitsap Public Health District Communicable Disease Nurses at 360-728-2235.

If staff have concerns about a child's ability to safely return to class, we reserve the right to request a note from the child's health care provider.
