



UK Health
Security
Agency

26 September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are writing to advise you that a child who attends this school has tested positive for *E. coli* STEC. You may be aware that this germ causes abdominal pain and diarrhoea but can also cause more serious conditions. There is no indication that the child's infection is associated in any way with the school.

A fact sheet is attached with the letter which explains what *E. coli* STEC is and what action you should take if you are concerned that you or your child have symptoms of infection.

Naturally should you be concerned that your child has symptoms related to *E. coli* STEC (usually quite severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea which may have blood in it), you should contact your own general practitioner immediately and please let the school know that your child is ill. Because *E. coli* STEC infections may sometimes be mild with simple diarrhoea, if your child has had any diarrhoea in the past 10 days please contact your doctor and arrange for a stool sample to be collected. Your child should not attend school until at least 48 hours after the diarrhoea has stopped, and not before we know that the stool sample is negative for *E. coli* STEC.

If you need more information about *E. coli* STEC you may wish to phone NHS 111.

Should you wish to speak to your local health protection team for advice, please dial 03003038162 and quote HPZ reference number 4402432.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Eszter Kiss-Farina
Health Protection Practitioner

Nic Furnish
Head Teacher