

Slapped Cheek/Fifth disease, Parvovirus B19 and Hand, Foot and Mouth

We have recently had several cases of slapped cheek/fifth disease, parvovirus B19, and hand foot and mouth reported at Ardley Hill Academy and would like to issue the following information to parents and carers.

Government guidelines state that children do not need to stay off school with either of these illnesses, although Hand, Foot and Mouth can be particularly painful for children, especially when eating and drinking. Ardley Hill Academy would recommend that parents/carers use their own discretion as to whether they send their child in with Hand, Foot and mouth, depending on how much pain their child is in.

Slapped cheek/fifth disease, parvovirus B19 is regarded as a concern for the following:-

Pregnancy – This can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), inform whoever is giving antenatal care as this must be investigated immediately.

Vulnerable children and babies under 3 months old should seek medical advice immediately.