

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

Subject: Viral Illness

A child attending Sheffield School has become unwell with a viral illness associated with a fever and rash. The Department of Health is aware of a number of similar cases of rash illness occurring across the state.

What is a viral illness?

Viral illness and rashes are very common in children. A virus is a germ that causes infections. Many viruses can cause a rash for example in infections such as chicken pox; hand, foot and mouth disease and slapped cheek. Often viral infections that cause a rash will also cause a fever.

Viruses can easily spread when people have close contact with each other, for example in schools. Most viruses are mild, and the best treatment is rest at home.

What do I need to do?

If your child becomes unwell with a fever or rash, keep them at home away from others to prevent spreading the virus.

If you are concerned for any reason or if your child becomes unwell and does not improve, see your GP.

For more information you can contact the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738 or visit:

https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Rashes/

https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Fever_in_children/

https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Viral_illnesses/

Yours sincerely



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