



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL  
Phone: 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820  
Website: [www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk)  
Principal: Mrs S Horan



Archdiocese of Birmingham

16 May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Cases of Mumps at Hagley Catholic High School**

There have been ten cases of mumps recently diagnosed within the school. We take the health and welfare of our students and staff seriously and are taking advice from specialists at Public Health England (PHE) West Midlands.

PHE has advised us that parents should make sure their children have had two doses of the combined MMR vaccine which protects against measles, mumps and rubella. The vaccine is usually given at 12 - 15 months, followed by a second dose at 3 years 4 months – 5 years of age. However, people can receive the MMR vaccine at any age. It is freely available on the NHS and is highly effective and safe. Please arrange MMR vaccination with your GP if you think your child is not fully protected.

Mumps is an infection that usually affects children but can also spread to adults. Parents and staff should look out for symptoms which can include:

- painful swelling of the face around the cheeks and jaw
- a high temperature (fever) of 38C (100.4F) or above
- headache
- earache
- feeling sick
- dry mouth
- mild abdominal pain
- feeling tired and
- loss of appetite

In about 1 in 3 cases, mumps does not cause any noticeable symptoms.

**If someone has the symptoms above, they should not attend school but stay at home, contact their GP and take this letter with them when they see their GP. If mumps is confirmed, they should remain at home for 5 days after the swelling started.**

Treatment is based on alleviating the symptoms, particularly fever. This includes drinking plenty of fluids and taking paracetamol or ibuprofen (follow the directions for use on the packaging). Aspirin should not be given to children under 16 years old. If you are worried, speak to your doctor or NHS 111.

**Most people usually make a full recovery from mumps with no long-term problems.** However, it can be associated with problems including inflammation of the ovaries and testes, meningitis and deafness in a few cases – especially in older people.

**Part of Saint Nicholas Owen Catholic Multi Academy Company.**

A Private Limited Company with charitable status. Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154  
Registered Office: Hagley Catholic High School, Brake Lane, Hagley, Worcestershire DY8 2XL  
Telephone 01562 883193 Fax: 01562 881820



Mumps is spread by droplets (coughing and sneezing), or by contact with saliva from the infected person. If your child has mumps, you can help prevent it spreading by regular handwashing with soap and water and disposing of tissues after coughing or sneezing.

After being infected with mumps, it can take up to three weeks before symptoms develop. Cases are infectious for a few days before swelling starts, until about a week after. This means it is possible for someone with mumps to pass it on to others before they know they have been infected. The attached leaflet from Public Health England provides further information and advice about Mumps.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Horan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a long, sweeping tail.

S Horan  
Principal