

**13<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

To Parents/ Carers

Dear Parents/ Carers

**Re: Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) gastroenteritis**

The Public Health Agency (PHA) Health Protection team has been notified of a case of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) gastroenteritis associated with your school.

The PHA has been working closely with the principal and other Education and Health and Social Care Professionals to assess the situation and has instigated measures to reduce spread of infection to others.

The risk to children in the school has been assessed as low and your child does not need to take any further action. Your child can attend school as normal.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information about STEC infection, which can be found in this [leaflet](#).

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### **What if your child develops symptoms?**

If your child develops diarrhoea and/or vomiting they should not attend school or other childcare settings until they are at least 48 hours clear of symptoms.

You should submit a faecal sample to your local GP surgery for testing. If the test result is positive the PHA will telephone you and provide you with further advice.

### **Hygiene advice**

As an additional precaution we are asking parents and school staff to maintain a high level of vigilance and enhanced hygiene, particularly supervised hand washing.

If you have any concerns about your child's health, we recommend contacting your child's GP for further advice.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jillian Johnston

Consultant in Public Health (Health Protection)

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