

Ref: KHO/074/22-23

16 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Christmas Concert**

A wonderful evening was enjoyed by all who joined us for the Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. Thank you to Mrs Harrison and Mr Cakar for organising the event. Our band, dance company and choir performed a range of musical pieces, dances and songs, including O come all Ye Faithful, Jingle Bell Rock, Bare Necessities and Rocking around the Christmas tree, which were



a joy to behold, and it was lovely to see such an array of talent, with pupils from all year groups confidently performing on stage. Well done to all pupils who took part and thanks also to members of staff who joined the band and supported the evening. It was wonderful to see a full House for the concert. Thank you to all parents and friends who were able to join us.

A full report will be in our end of term Newsletter.

### **Christmas Carol Service – Tuesday 20 December**

During Tuesday 20 December, all pupils in the academy will be walking to St Martin's church for our annual Christmas carol service. This is a lovely event which allows us to meet together at the end of term in our Houses. Please remind pupils to wear a warm coat and bring an umbrella if needed. Normal lessons in the academy will take place before and after the service, so pupils should bring with them all of the required equipment and books for P1, P2, P4 & P5.

Following our Carol service, we will once again be sitting down to enjoy a full Christmas lunch together. The two course Christmas lunch is priced at our usual £2.60, and pupils have now ordered Christmas lunch or a grab & go bag (sandwiches). Please be reminded that on this day we will not be serving hot snacks, so any pupils who have not placed an order will need to bring a packed lunch.

### **Year 11 & Sixth Form – Mock Exams**

Well done to all students who have successfully completed their mock exams over the last two weeks. We will be sharing the mock results in January, and these will inform the next steps for both pupils and staff as we prepare for the final external examinations.

### **Scarlet Fever**

Please refer to the full letter from Public Health at the end of this letter regarding the national increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels.

### **Last day of term**

Wednesday 21 December is the last day of this half-term as we break up for the Christmas holidays. All pupils will leave the academy at 2pm and early buses have been arranged. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) if your child will remain in the academy.

## Staying safe

The latest edition of our academy Safeguarding Newsletter is available to download from our website. Please do have a read of the useful information. The newsletter also includes links to organisations who can provide support and please do, of course, contact Mrs Howard if we can help in any way.

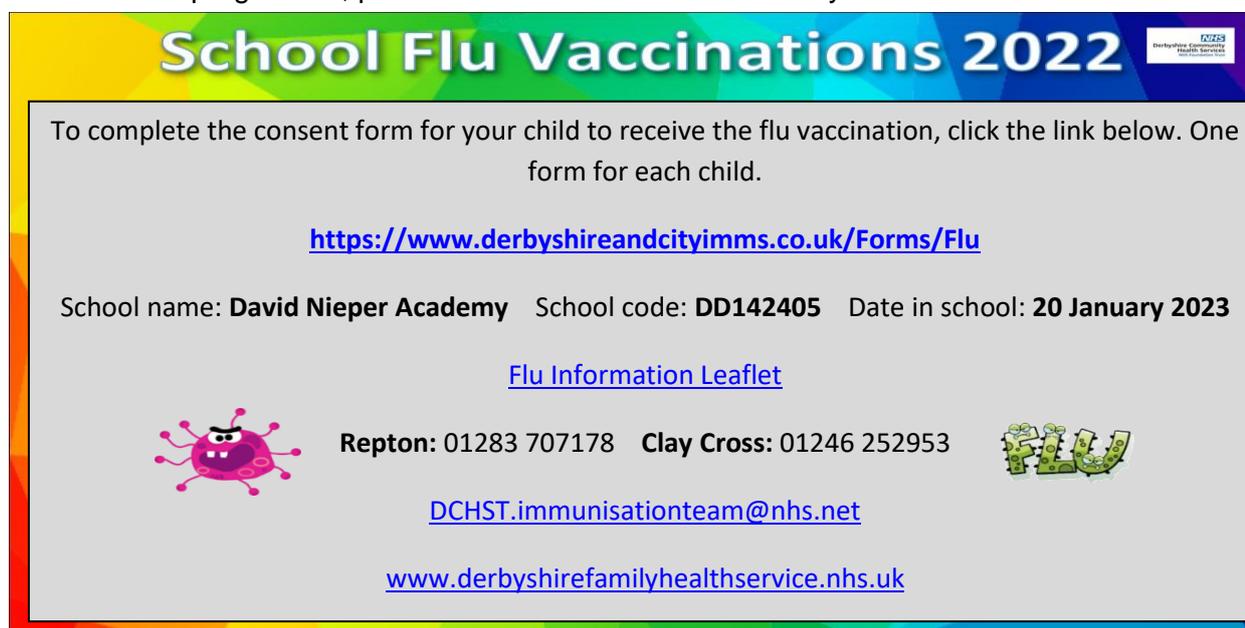
<https://davidnieper.academy/safeguarding/>

We have all been shocked and saddened to hear of the news this week of the deaths of four young boys, after they tragically fell into icy water. We have discussed keeping safe with all pupils. Please speak with your children and remind them of the dangers so that they can all keep safe.



## School Flu Vaccinations

On Friday 20 January 2023 the NHS Immunisation Team will be visiting the academy to offer to all children in Years 7, 8 & 9 the flu vaccine – see details below. Please provide consent via the NHS online link if you wish your child to have the vaccine. If you have any questions about the immunisation programme, please contact the NHS team directly.



To complete the consent form for your child to receive the flu vaccination, click the link below. One form for each child.

<https://www.derbyshireandcityimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

School name: **David Nieper Academy** School code: **DD142405** Date in school: **20 January 2023**

[Flu Information Leaflet](#)

Repton: 01283 707178 Clay Cross: 01246 252953

[DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net](mailto:DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net)

[www.derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk](http://www.derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk)

## Dates for the diary

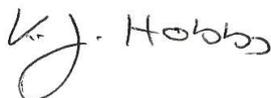
Wednesday 21 December  
Monday 9 January 2023  
Thursday 12 January  
Wednesday 1 February  
20-24 February  
Monday 27 February  
Tuesday 28 February

Last day of term - 2pm finish  
All pupils return to a Week B timetable  
Sixth Form Parents Evening, 4-6pm  
Early finish for all pupils - 2pm depart  
Half-term holidays  
INSET day – academy closed  
All pupils return

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) and a member of staff will be in touch.

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs  
Headteacher



UK Health  
Security  
Agency

06/11/2022

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s),

**Re: Increase in scarlet fever**

We are writing to inform you of a recent national increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the signs, symptoms and the actions to be taken if you think that you or your child might have scarlet fever.

**Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever**

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes* or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

**Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)**

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS).

Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection. As a parent, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

### **Stop the spread**

During periods of high incidence of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.

Yours sincerely,

Susanne Howes  
Consultant in Health Protection

### **Resources**

[NHS – Scarlet Fever](#)

[Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment](#)

[Health protection in education and childcare settings](#)

[Hand hygiene resources for schools](#)