

CITY OF DERBY ACADEMY

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Friday, 06 May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been reported that since January 2022 there has been an increase in the number of children with acute (sudden onset) hepatitis of unknown cause in the UK. Most of these children are aged under 10 years. Hepatitis is a condition that causes inflammation of the liver and can be caused by infection with a virus. The viruses that normally cause hepatitis (hepatitis viruses A to E) have not been found in the children affected recently. The UK Health Security Agency is working with the NHS and public health colleagues across the UK to find the cause as soon as possible.

Hepatitis symptoms include:

- yellowing of the white part of the eyes or skin (jaundice)
- dark urine
- pale, grey-coloured faeces (poo)
- itchy skin
- muscle and joint pain
- a high temperature
- feeling and being sick
- feeling unusually tired all the time
- loss of appetite
- tummy pain

You do not need to contact the NHS unless your child is very unwell (for example, has breathing difficulties or is not eating or drinking) or if they develop jaundice (yellowing of the eyes or skin). If your child is getting rapidly worse or you are worried, trust your instincts and contact your GP or call the NHS on 111.

To read the full report please click on the following link:

<https://bit.ly/hepatitis-cases>

Phil Smith

Proud Headteacher
City of Derby Academy

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