



Archdiocese of Birmingham
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy
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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to let you know that we have been made aware of a number of cases of threadworm within your child's class.

Threadworm is a common infection in young children and is not usually harmful. It spreads easily through close contact and by touching contaminated surfaces. Symptoms may include itching around the bottom, particularly at night, although some children may have no symptoms at all.

To help prevent the infection from spreading, we ask that you:

- Check your child for signs of threadworm.
- If you suspect your child has threadworm, treat them with a suitable medication, available from pharmacies. Your pharmacist can advise you on the most appropriate treatment. It is usually recommended that everyone in the household is treated at the same time.
- Encourage your child to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and warm water, especially after using the toilet and before eating.
- Keep fingernails short and clean, and discourage nail biting or thumb sucking.
- Wash bedding, towels, nightwear and underwear regularly, particularly on the day treatment begins.
- Vacuum and damp dust your home regularly to help remove any eggs.

Children with threadworm do not usually need to stay off school, provided they have started treatment and are otherwise well.

We are reinforcing good hand hygiene practices in school and ensuring that classroom and toilet areas are cleaned regularly.

Further information about threadworm, including symptoms and treatment, is available on the NHS website.

Thank you for your support in helping to reduce the spread of infection. If you have any concerns or require further advice, please contact your pharmacist or GP.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Statham

Head of School