

Information regarding Impetigo (Tobihi: とびひ)

Impetigo (Japanese) is a highly contagious bacterial skin infection which usually appears around the nose and mouth. A small patch of tiny blisters appears, but you may not notice them since they soon break, exposing a patch of red, moist, weepy skin beneath. Gradually the area becomes covered by a tan crust that looks like brown sugar. The infection then spreads at the edges, and newly infected areas may develop elsewhere.

Please consult a physician because if left untreated, this infection will persist and spread. The physician will prescribe antibiotics. If the child is not sick, he/she can return to school. However, if the rash is still wet, it needs to be covered by clean gauze to prevent spreading bacteria. The child also needs to stay away from swimming until sores have dried and healed.

Please note that we do not require a doctor's certificate when returning to school.

Please see the following website for up-to-date information concerning this illness:

NHSDirect-<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Impetigo/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

If you have trouble accessing these websites or would like any further information please contact the School Nurses:

Ayako Hashimoto, Mariko Toyoshi & Arisa Inoue – nurses@bst.ac.jp
Shibuya Medical Room – 03 5467 4366
Showa Medical Room – 03 3411 4213

Best Regards,
The British School in Tokyo
Health & Safety Office