

Headteacher: Andrew Denham

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Dear Parents,

I would like to provide some clarity on what to do if your child is poorly during these uncertain times with the Coronavirus around.

If your child has mild cold-like symptoms they should continue to come in to school. Sore throats and blocked or runny noses or feeling 'a little under-the-weather' are not symptoms of coronavirus so your child should be in school.

However, if your child has any of the following symptoms, we would ask you to keep them off from school and take them for a test:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please do not send them into school until the outcome of the test has been confirmed. You must contact the school via email or phone as soon as possible to let us know that you are taking them for a test.

*If your child or a member of your family is going for a test, we ask families to consider carefully about sharing it on social media, like Face Book or WhatsApp groups. This may cause unnecessary worry or concern and lead to rumours quickly developing that can be unhelpful and unsettling.*

If you tell us that your child or a member of your household has a positive coronavirus test, we will liaise with the appropriate authorities for the most up-to-date advice to help aid our decision making on what happens next. This may include closing the 'Class Bubble' for a period of time and reverting to our Google Classrooms for online education.

We will contact all families as soon as we are told directly by phone or email from the affected family (not social media or rumour) if we have a confirmed coronavirus test in our immediate school community (a pupil or member of staff). We will make an informed decision if it is necessary to make it known that there is a case within a household of a pupil or member of staff.

Finally, drop-off and pick-up are going reasonably well but we need to see better social distancing from all parents during these times. Please be mindful of where you are standing, especially near the paths and walkways and try to pass people on the right-hand side.

We would like parents to continue wearing a face mask on the playground for the next two weeks while we wait to see the impact of all the children being back in school. If we do not have any positive tests in this time, we will look to stop the school requirement for them to be worn. We know we are being over-cautious with the wearing of masks outside but prefer to be 'safe than sorry'.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Mr Denham