

Dear Parents and Carers

As all children return to school, it is inevitable that some children will become unwell with cold like symptoms. This is very common at this time of year.

We are very grateful that parents and carers are being vigilant and also understand your concerns when your child gets a runny nose, sore throat etc. As their parent, you are likely to know if this is a normal cold symptom for your child.

Coronavirus symptoms are as follows:

- **a high temperature** – this means you 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

YOUR CHILD DOES NOT NEED TO STAY AT HOME IF THEY HAVE A COLD, UNLESS THEY HAVE A HIGH TEMPERATURE, OR ANY OTHER OF THE ABOVE CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS.

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of the symptoms above.

If your child or anyone in your household has these symptoms:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result. You do not need to get your child tested if they have a cold.

If your child is absent for ANY REASON, please inform the school as soon as possible by using 'Notify Absence' on the ParentMail App. You can also leave a message on the school answerphone by pressing '1' when you hear the message. **PLEASE DO NOT PHONE THE SCHOOL AND ASK FOR ADVICE.** Whilst we appreciate this is difficult, we are following the same guidance as you. **If you have any concerns, please call NHS 111 or contact your GP.**

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this new term.

Mrs Crittenden

Headteacher