

14th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Winter Illnesses - Further Covid-19 Advice for Parents

As I am sure you will appreciate, the autumn and winter months this year will prove to be a very challenging time for us all. Typically, this time of the year in school sees the start of coughs, colds and runny noses. In 'normal' years, we, as parents, do our very best to keep our children coming to school as much as possible and in turn, schools do our best to keep them here with us!

We really do want to keep things as 'normal' as we can this term. However, we have already received several phone calls and enquiries about children with coughs or colds and asking us what to do for the best. If your child has the normal signs of a winter cold, then do as you would normally do; arm them with tissues and encourage them to drink lots of water during the day while at school. We will keep a close eye on everyone – as we always do. Just like 'normal' years, we will always contact you if we feel that your child is developing an illness or feeling sick during the day. We will do our level best to keep your children in school if we can.

Should your child start to show any signs or symptoms of Covid19 related illnesses whilst at home, then we would ask you to keep them off school to self-isolate, get the test administered (which is always the best option and eliminates any doubt) and let us know. If your child has a Covid19 test which proves positive, then please contact us immediately. If your child develops these symptoms during the school day, we will contact you and ask for you to collect your child from our quarantine room. If we receive notification of a positive test result for Covid19, then we will inform parents in that child's class so that the appropriate guidance can then be followed. Should the test result be negative, then your child can return to school.

Every class has access to a digital thermometer which we will use if we are concerned about a child and if they are showing any Covid19 symptoms. We will take a reading from the child's forehead if we are concerned. This, as you will know, although not 100% accurate, will give us the best indication if a child has a temperature above 37.8 degrees – which is the temperature at which we would need to contact you.

We want to be able to carry on as close to our new normal as we can this term and this year, but we appreciate that we will all need to be vigilant and cautious (and perhaps extra-so in the initial return period). If ever you are in doubt, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be only too happy to help.

Regards



Jane Barker-Doe
Operational Head Teacher