



Tuesday 1st February 2022

Dear Parents,

I wanted to take the opportunity to drop you a note because we are, understandably, getting more queries related to illness whether COVID related or not.

As I mentioned in a previous communication, it seems that whilst we know the 3 main symptoms of COVID are a high temperature, a new or persistent cough and loss or change to taste/smell, many families are reporting symptoms consistent with a common cold and/or achy joints.

The advice remains that if any of the three COVID symptoms are present a PCR test should be sought. We advise that if your child feels unwell for any reason that you should do a lateral flow test on them.

Following a positive test result (lateral flow or PCR), lateral flow tests should be taken from day 5. If the day 5 and day 6 lateral flow tests are negative, isolation can stop from the morning of day 6, i.e. your child can return to school on day 6. If the day 5 lateral flow remains positive, keep testing every day until there are two consecutive days where tests are negative or the full 10 days of isolation has been completed.

If parents/household members are COVID positive, the Department for Education's expectation is that children who are testing negative should attend school. I appreciate that this is an added complexity for some of our families; however, one of the things I love about our community is how everyone pulls together to help others out. I am sure parents walking passed would happily help with walking your child to and from school. If your child is kept off school when they are COVID negative and well, we are required to record this as an unauthorised absence and remote learning is not provided.

If your child is off school because they are COVID positive, we will provide them with remote learning everyday of their absence. Please let your child's teacher know if your child is not well enough to complete school work on any given day of the isolation period. Schools only provide remote learning for children who are COVID positive or who have a long-term medical issue that prevents them from attending school as directed by a medical professional as part of a care plan. If your child is absent from school for any other reason, schools do not provide work/remote learning.

The team and I appreciate your continued support at this challenging time.

Best wishes,

Jamie Pardon

Headteacher