

17 March 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

Yesterday, the Prime Minister announced a change in approach for households with individuals showing symptoms of coronavirus.

In summary:

- a) if any member of your household is unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature then all members of the household must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days** to avoid spreading infection to others.
- b) if children become unwell at school with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home and all members of the household must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days** to avoid spreading infection to others.

This means that if any member of your household was self-isolating yesterday, then all children living in the household must now stay at home.

The main messages from the Public Health England website are attached to the end of the letter. For the complete information, please visit the Public Health England website.

As I stated in my letter yesterday, we are taking seriously our role in trying to slow down the spread of COVID-19 in our community. It is imperative that we work together to protect elderly and vulnerable members of our community and act responsibly.

If your child will not be attending school, please contact the absence line to make us aware of the reasons for absence or telephone the school and ask to speak to a member of the Pastoral team.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Hemmings
Headteacher

Extract from the Public Health England website

The main messages are:

- if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for **7 days** from when your symptoms started. (See [ending isolation](#) section for more information)
- if you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill
- it is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
- for anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period. (See [ending isolation](#) section for more information)
- if you can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period
- if you cannot move vulnerable people out of your home, stay away from them as much as possible
- if you have coronavirus symptoms:
 - do **not** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
 - you do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home
 - testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home
- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home and consider what can be done for vulnerable people in the household
- ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the [NHS 111 online](#) coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999