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22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Pupil Absence due to Illness

Thank you once again for all your support and embracing our current ways of working. We really appreciate how everyone is working together to keep our school community safe.

During the school day we regularly ask the children to wash their hands and the staff wear face coverings indoors when moving around the school whilst keeping their distance from other adults in the building. The children are keeping within their own year group bubbles and in their own play areas.

Below is a guide for recognising coronavirus symptoms which you may find useful if you are unsure about your child's health. If your child is unwell, but **isn't** displaying any of the three coronavirus symptoms - high temperature, a new continuous cough, loss of taste or smell - there's **no** need to book a test and they do not need to self-isolate. Your child can attend school if fit to do so.

Boots RECOGNISING CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS					
SYMPTOMS	CORONAVIRUS Symptoms range from mild to severe	COLD Gradual onset of symptoms	FLU Rapid onset of symptoms	HAYFEVER	ASTHMA
Fever ( $\geq 37.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	Common	Rare	Common	No	No
Cough	Common (usually dry & continuous)	Mild	Common (usually dry)	Sometimes (usually dry)	Sometimes (wheeze & cough)
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No	No	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Rare	Common	Sometimes	No
Sore throat	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes	'Itchy' throat	No
Runny / stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common	No
Sneezing	No	Common	No	Common	Rare
Aches & pains	Sometimes	Common	Common	No	No
Fatigue	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes	No
Diarrhoea	Rare	No	Sometimes (for children)	No	No

Adapted from: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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**YOU SHOULD BOOK A TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:**

**a high temperature.**

This means they feel extremely hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

**a new continuous cough.**

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough it may be worse than usual)

**a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.**

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Attached is a quick reference guide for Coronavirus absences to hopefully make the procedures clear in the event of your child or family member having potential Covid symptoms.

Naturally we continue to follow the local and national picture with regard to the virus. While we sincerely hope that this will not come about, we are making preparations behind the scenes to ensure that we could, at short notice, revert to home learning should this be required. For the time being, however, we remain vigilant and continue to enjoy having all children back with us.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Fulstow

Head teacher