

Chisenhale Primary School



15th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Children who are unwell

Over the last few days we have increasingly had children who are a little unwell. In the current situation, it is understandable that both staff and parents are anxious when children start to present with symptoms. The difficulty is that we none of us can tell of course, if a child has coronavirus, and in fact many children could have it and be displaying no symptoms at all.

What we have been told is that the main symptoms of the virus to look out for are the following:

- **new persistent cough,**
- **fever or high temperature**
- **change/loss in their sense of smell/taste**

If your child has any of these, then you should keep them at home and go online at:

<https://111.nhs.uk/>

 111 online

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[Find out what to do if you think you have symptoms](#)

Here you will get advice about what to do next.

If your child is unwell with other symptoms and you feel unsure you can also use this website and go through the process of answering the questions in order to get advice about whether you should be trying to access a test.

We also have information from the Royal Society of Paediatricians which says that children who have been poorly with Covid-19 have not very often had runny noses or sore throats in particular. So from this we are suggesting that if your child seems to have the typical symptoms of a cold, then you should treat it as such, and if they are unwell keep them at home, but if they are ok, send them to school. Do re-iterate to them that they need to have good hygiene and wipe their nose with a tissue, put it in the yellow bin in the classroom and wash their hands.

However, the difficulty arises when children do present with a new and persistent cough in school or a fever. As these are key symptoms, we are likely to send them home as a precautionary measure. We will also send any siblings home too, and you will get a letter explaining what to do next.

If your child is sent home; or you call and let us know you suspect they have Covid-19 symptoms and are keeping them at home; or they need to isolate due to a family member testing positive, we will prepare some

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work, which will either be delivered to you or sent electronically. Our aim is to do this within 24 hours, this will however, not be a full curriculum as the teachers will still be teaching the rest of the class.

Many children have come back to school from a long break, and coughs, colds and other usual childhood illnesses will be going around, as they always do. Nevertheless, there has to be a sense of caution too. Staff in the office are not health professionals and although, we all want to be helpful and supportive, the best place to go if you are worried about your child is the NHS 111 website.

Thank you to the great parents of Chisenhale who are being so supportive as we try to navigate these new waters.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SLT' followed by a stylized flourish.

Sharon Taylor-Sezgin
Headteacher

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