



St. Nicholas C of E Primary School

School Road, Marton Moss, Blackpool, FY4 5DS

Tel: 01253 966150 email: admin@st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk
www.st-nicholas-blackpool.org.uk Headteacher: Miss C Taylor, BA QTS, NPQH



Monday 21st September 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping well.

I am writing to you today with further information about Blackpool's policy on COVID-19 symptoms and isolation periods. Last week, Head teachers from Blackpool schools had a meeting with the LA and Public Health to discuss the issues many schools and families were facing following their last guidance.

The LA and Public Health Blackpool have now decided that until testing is more readily available, we will only ask children to isolate and get a test if they have the 3 main symptoms of the virus. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

If a child displays any of the other symptoms from the World Health Organisation list, we simply ask that your child **remains at home until they feel better**.

They do not need to isolate or get a test in order to return to school.

Children with a runny nose or sneezing alone don't need to stay at home.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, school will provide food parcels for pupils who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and who are not in attendance because they:

- are self-isolating
- have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- are not attending as a result of local lockdown arrangements

Parents must contact school and arrange collection at a mutually agreeable time.

If any child / staff member should test positive, school will respond according to government guidance and work with Public Health. We would initially inform any year groups affected on ParentApp – it is crucial that all parents have access to the app to ensure timely communication from school. If you have any queries, please contact the school office or you can email me directly on head@st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk

Many thanks for your patience and understanding in these unprecedented times.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Taylor

Headteacher