

# Whitefield Primary School

Oaklands Drive, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 0RH.

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**Dear Parents and Carers**

## **Advice regarding illnesses and coronavirus**

It has been a difficult week for schools as we manage the various normal illnesses that always occur at the start of term against our worries surrounding coronavirus symptoms.

So, a reminder of the guidance from the government:

If your child (or an adult in your household) is displaying any of the three published symptoms of coronavirus:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- 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've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal. (Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms)

they must stay at home and your child must not come to school. You will need to arrange for your child to have a test via the NHS link below

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

This site has been extremely busy over the last few days with no availability for testing close by however you are advised to keep trying as the testing centres do release more test times throughout the day.

All the family of the child/adult with symptoms must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the child/adult became ill or until a negative test result comes back.

If the test result comes back positive, please contact school so that we can liaise with Public Health England and get advice on the next steps for school and the bubbles. I

will then be in touch with you to let you know the actions that will need to be put in place within school.

For all the other usual autumn/winter illnesses, the same procedures apply. So for example if your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must stay out of school for 48 hours after the last episode.

If you are unsure what to do, please contact your doctor or 111 for advice.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Foster', is centered on a light blue rectangular background.

**Sarah Foster**

**Headteacher**