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Dear parent/carers,

As a result of the media coverage over the last few days, you are probably aware of the delay in getting results back from COVID-19 tests. We have been informed that the Testing Programme in Cheshire and Merseyside is experiencing continued exceptionally high demands.

We have been advised that pupils and staff do not need to take a test unless they exhibit one or more of the listed symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, or
- It is recommended by a healthcare professional

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms. Therefore, if you have one or more of these symptoms, you will need to get a test in order to stop the spread of the virus.

In the event that a member of your household displays one of the above symptoms, then there is no need for the rest of the household to have a test, unless they are symptomatic.

If you are needing to isolate whilst awaiting test results, please can we remind you that you need to stay indoors. There have been some instances where children have been seen in the village when they are off school self-isolating. We all need to do our bit in battling this dreadful virus.

As we return to school, the children may feel unwell. We have had incidents of a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These children do not need to book a test but may need to stay off school and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual. Below is a poster with details of frequently asked questions for your information. This is also on our school website under 'Useful Information'.

As always, we thank you for your contribution in keeping us all safe.

With kindest regards,

Mrs Jayne Narraway

Head Teacher







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COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers



What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Child should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	...when child's test comes back negative OR has completed 10 days self isolation AND feels well / without fever for 48 hours
 ...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) Inform school immediately about test results Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child has completed at least 10 days of self isolation and they feel better / without fever for 48h They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
 ...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Household member with symptoms should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days





* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>



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What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and the child can return to school again</p>
 <p>....I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only people with symptoms* need to get a test • People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>

For further information:
gov.uk/backtoschool



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