



1st September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Updated Government Guidance

As the winter approaches and more pupils pick up coughs and colds, we need to ensure we do all we reasonably can to minimise any risk of a child attending school who may have COVID-19.

Further government guidance was published last week. Consequently, our protocols for entry to school are as follows:

1. If your child or anyone in the household is displaying symptoms of Covid-19, do not come to school. (Symptoms include a high temperature; and/or a new continuous cough; and/or a loss or change of your sense of smell/taste. Please note, the government guidance defines a continuous cough as '*coughing a lot for more than one hour **or** 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours*'. Government guidance states that '*most people with corona virus will have **at least one** of these symptoms*'.

You should follow government advice and arrange for you and your child and other members of the household to be tested as soon as possible. See link below.

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

If any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 you should follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

You should also inform the school immediately.

If someone tests negative, Government guidance states '*if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to COVID-19, they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop isolating*'.

2. Any child arriving at school with **symptoms** will be **sent home**.
3. If your child has a cold or cough that does not appear to meet the government definition of a continuous cough, please inform the member of staff on the relevant gate. At this

HALL ORCHARD



point, staff will arrange a temperature check. If your child subsequently has a high temperature you will be asked to take them home and arrange a test. If any new symptoms occur during the day you will be contacted to collect your child.

Please note: We would ask all parents to err on the side of caution in this instance. We appreciate that pupil absence is difficult for working parents, but we are trying our best to protect the school and wider community as a whole.

I thank you, in advance, for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'JEMcKay'.

Headteacher