

15th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Last week was another positive week in school and we welcomed our new Reception children too! Our systems and routines seem to be working well and where we have identified glitches we have made changes. I have had a few questions from parents and have put together the following information to clarify the situation on children feeling unwell, P.E., school book bags and homework.

If your child is unwell

It is inevitable that we are going to have children off school with 'normal' illnesses; we have returned to school after 6 months away and children are mixing with each other in their class bubbles. We have been inundated with phone calls today because of what parents have read in parent chat groups. Whilst chat groups are a positive support, they can also cause some anxieties when parents are sharing information, particularly during these uncertain times. As a school we are dealing with ever-changing guidance, however currently the advice is as follows:

We ask that if your child is unwell, they do not come to school as would be the 'normal' case. However if they are ill with COVID 19 symptoms or if anyone in your house is displaying symptoms of COVID 19, we ask that you keep them at home and follow the government guidelines for self-isolation and seek a test to ascertain a diagnosis.

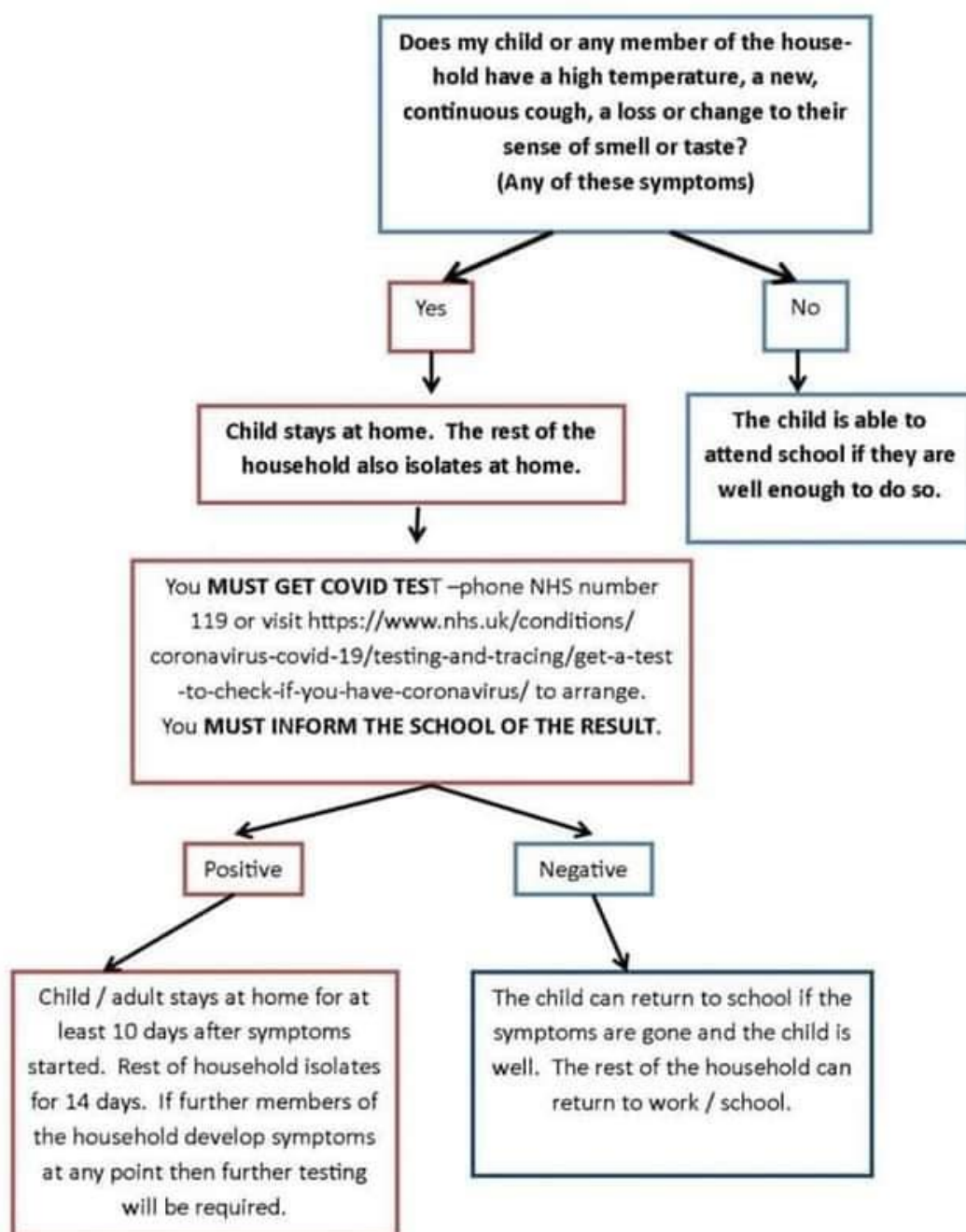
The symptoms of COVID 19 are:

- **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;
- **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.

If your child becomes unwell at school, with suspected COVID symptoms your child will be isolated in school and you will be asked to take them home and adhere to government guidance.

This chart may be useful.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT A MEMBER OF MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?



P.E.

These are the days for P.E. for each class:

Class	Days for P.E.
Reception	Friday
Year 1	Monday and Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday and Friday
Year 3	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday and Friday
Year 5	Monday and Friday
Year 6	Monday and Friday

To manage risks, wherever possible P.E. lessons will take place outside for this half term at least. We have asked that children wear trainers to school every day as we are maximising the opportunities to get children outdoors as part of the curriculum. At this moment in time we do not want children bringing additional P.E. kit into school so, on their allocated P.E. days, children can wear tracksuit bottoms or leggings with just their normal school uniform polo shirt and sweatshirt.

If your child wears ear-rings then they should not come to school with them in on P.E. days. If they can't take them out, then they need to come to school with tape over them as is normal practice for P.E. lessons. **N.B.** children should only be wearing small stud ear-rings. Children should not be wearing any jewellery.

Book Bags

We are still not allowing book bags into school. We will be supplying children with a wallet to take things to and from school in. (We are currently awaiting the order). This will mean that the children can keep their wallet in their own tray. This will again avoid any cross contamination.

The wallets will be used to bring reading books and reading records and spelling logs or phonic books to and from school on a daily basis. Our aim is for children to take a reading book home on a Monday and we will collect them all in on a Friday. This will reduce the need for us to wipe them down as the books will be 'quarantined' over the weekend.

Homework will begin this week and it will be online until at least half term. Homework will be set for over the weekend to be completed for the Monday.

I know that these measures may seem slightly extreme but we need to manage the risks as best as we possibly can to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

Wendy Gill

Headteacher