

Dear Parent / Carer,

We wanted to write to you following the national update to COVID-19 advice yesterday (12 March 2020).

The Chief Medical Officer provided new advice around self-isolation and Public Health England have updated their web pages so we would encourage you to review the updated information online: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

The advice is that you should self-isolate at home for seven days if you have a recent onset of:

- A new continuous cough and/or
- High temperature

If staff or pupils have these symptoms then they should now take steps to stay at home and not leave their house for seven days from when their symptoms started.

This will help to protect others in the community while they are infectious. Anyone displaying symptoms should not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

If you decide you need to keep your child at home and self-isolate you do not need to contact NHS 111 to tell them they are staying at home and Public Health England will not be testing people who are self-isolating with mild symptoms.

If your child is displaying the above symptoms and you decide they need to self-isolate please report their absence in the normal way by telephoning the school office on 01488 682630 by 08.50am.

You can view the guidance around self-isolation online:

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

Please be aware that we cannot reply to individual phone calls regarding this situation but be assured we will continue to follow the latest government advice and keep everyone updated via our school communications.

We will continue to provide regular updates regarding this situation and concerned parents should visit the NHS coronavirus webpage <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> in the first instance or phone NHS 111 and seek professional health advice.

We thank you for your support in this matter.