

# Meadowside Community Primary & Nursery School



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Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

We have now been open for three days and it has been amazing to see the children settle into the old routines (and some new ones). Huge thanks to them and to you for helping us manage the adaptations we have had to make during the pandemic.

In response to some understandable queries from parents today, I now need to remind you of the government guidance we are following in regards to pupil attendance and what to do if you feel your child may be sick.

## **Summary of Government Guidance**

If a child is sick they should remain at home until they feel well enough to return to school\*. Furthermore, if your child has either of the following symptoms, they should stay at home for a period of 10 days isolation and arrange to take a test (click here to [arrange to have a test](#)):

- a new and persistent cough
- or a high temperature
- a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please notify the school office ASAP if your child has any of these symptoms.

**\* Children with a sickness or diarrhoea bug should still remain off school for a minimum period of 48 hours in line with school policy.**

This summary is adapted from the DfE's document, '**Guidance for full opening: schools**'. Here is an extract of the guidance for parents who wish to know more about this...

***'Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school:***

*Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#) or have tested positive in at least the **last 10***



**days** and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), which sets out that they **should self-isolate for at least 10 days** and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

If they have tested positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart **the 10-day isolation period** from the day they develop symptoms.

Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for **14 days** from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.'

'In the majority of cases, schools and parents will be in agreement that a child with symptoms should not attend school, given the potential risk to others. In the event that a parent or guardian insists on a child attending school, schools can take the decision to refuse the child if in their reasonable judgement it is necessary to protect their pupils and staff from possible infection with coronavirus (COVID-19).'

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It is also vital that school has your up to date contact information in case we need to contact you urgently during the school day. Please contact the school office to update these if they have recently changed.

As ever, thank you for your support.

Kind regards,



Mr S. Wright

Headteacher

