



Mowbray School

North Yorkshire County Council

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Dear Parent

Wednesday 9th September 2020

The full opening of school has gone extremely well and pupils are clearly very happy to be back in school. Arrival and departure procedures have, though complicated and busy with high numbers of children and adults, gone smoothly. It is going to be important that drivers and escorts stick to the allocated drop off and collection times.

You will be aware from the news that we are once again seeing a significant rise in the infection rate of COVID19 across the country, this is now impacting upon our school with a steady increase in children, family members, staff and household members, displaying symptoms of COVID19. This means such persons have to self-isolate and not come to school, in order to stop others being at risk of infection and reduce its spread. We are understandably extremely worried with the impact that this is having on school now and in the future. If children, staff or household members have the virus, it will result in classes being closed for weeks on end, cause severe disruption to staffing across school and cause people to be unwell.

It appears that the symptoms children could have of COVID19 can be different to that of adults, children may also complain amongst other things, of headaches and tiredness. The main symptoms for us all to be aware of are; a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

As this is such a serious and complex matter, if your child is at all unwell, we ask that you keep your child away from school, seek medical advice and request a COVID19 test. If you are in any doubt about your child's health, please keep your child off school and seek medical advice. We know that this causes inconvenience to everyone and some of you may feel we are being overly cautious; however, we are simply trying to protect children, families and ourselves from becoming ill.

I also have to inform you that, national guidance instructs us to isolate children or staff with symptoms of COVID19 and we will then contact you requesting you to come into school to collect your child if they are ill. School staff and school transport will not be able to take your child home in these circumstances.

I hope that the information below will be helpful to you, it is taken from the NHS website [Check if you or your child have COVID19 symptoms](#)

When to self-isolate and what to do

What is self-isolation?

Self-isolation is when you do not leave your home because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19).

This helps stop the virus spreading to other people.

When to self-isolate

You must self-isolate immediately if:

- you have any [symptoms of coronavirus](#) (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you've tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus
- you live with someone who has symptoms or tested positive
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive

- [you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace](#)
- you arrive in the UK from a country with a high coronavirus risk – see [GOV.UK: how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK](#)

How to self-isolate

You must not leave your home if you're self-isolating.

When to get a test

Get a test as soon as possible if you have any symptoms of coronavirus.

The test needs to be done in the first 5 days of having symptoms.

Get a test to check if you have coronavirus**Tell people you've been in close contact with that you have symptoms****How long to self-isolate**

If you have symptoms or have tested positive for coronavirus, you'll usually need to self-isolate for at least 10 days.

You'll usually need to self-isolate for 14 days if:

- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- you've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace

I very much appreciate your support of what we are doing and respect our determination to keep all members of our school community safe. If you require further clarification and discuss this letter with me, then please contact me in person to discuss your situation.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Tearle, Executive Headteacher