



# Worplesdon Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write to you to clarify the position with regards to what you should do if your child becomes unwell. Following government guidance, we would ask that you only try to obtain a test for Covid if your child or a member of your family has one or more of the following three symptoms (taken from the NHS website):

- a high temperature (NHS guidance is that this is 38 degrees or higher in a child)
- 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 sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We are aware that there are lots of children unwell at the moment with colds and some children have a cough alongside the cold symptoms. What we are asking is that children who have a bad cold or a cold and cough are kept at home and monitored by you for 24 hours. If the cough develops into a consistent cough as described above or your child develops a high temperature, we would then ask that you try to obtain a Covid test and that they remain at home along with the rest of the family and self isolate until you receive the test result. Obviously, if the cold does not develop into a consistent cough or cause a high temperature then your child can return to school when they are feeling better.

As you will be aware from the media, at the moment it is very difficult to obtain a Covid test. The advice is to keep trying as more tests are being released each day. I would point out that Covid tests should be carried out within the first 5 days of the symptoms appearing. If your child or a family member does exhibit one or more of the Covid symptoms and are unable to get a test within the first 5 days, the advice is then that the person with symptoms should self isolate for 10 days (from the day the symptom first appeared) and the rest of the family should self isolate for 14 days. Please see the NHS website for further information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

If your child needs to be at home because they are unwell or are awaiting test results, I am pleased to confirm that teachers will be uploading work each day onto Google classroom for the children to complete from home. We hope this will be helpful to you. Please be aware that our teachers are all working full time teaching in class and therefore there may be some delay in them marking or responding to the work completed from home.

Finally, thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss the content of this email further.

Kind regards,

Kareen O'Brien