

# Ormesby Village Infant School

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Dear Parents

We have so enjoyed welcoming you and your children back to school and thank you all for adhering to our requests to keep your children safe and healthy. We know that we are all still adjusting to these new measures and this letter is to make clear the guidance we, and you, are required to follow with regard to possible Covid symptoms/transmission. **Currently we are advised that we need to be vigilant about the following four possible symptoms of Covid:-**

- A high temperature - this usually means a temperature of 38 degrees or higher.
- A new, persistent cough. (please see NHS link below)
- Loss of smell
- Loss of taste

Any one, or a combination, of these symptoms could indicate a case of Covid. Of course, they could also indicate a number of other illnesses as well. We understand that the children will often have colds and tummy aches/headaches which may, or may not, present with one or more of these four symptoms, so we know that both you, and staff, are anxious about doing the right thing.

**Therefore, if your children, or anyone in your household, present with any one or more of the above symptoms you must all self-isolate as a family and the person with symptoms must have a test.** You all need to remain self-isolating until the result comes through. If this is negative your household can return to normal life as long as everyone is well enough. If the test is positive you will be notified and the school will be advised on what steps need to be taken and which children/staff, if any, need to self-isolate. This advice will then be communicated to the school community.

The school is required to isolate any child who presents with one or more of the above symptoms while at school and request that they be taken home and a test booked for Covid. This will mean that if you have other children, at either school, or in another setting, they will also need to be collected as soon as possible. We do understand that this is worrying and inconvenient and often you will think that a symptom is because of a cold/allergy etc. Staff, however, cannot make this judgement and must take action as required by government guidance and LA risk assessments and compliance codes. Children who have to self-isolate will be supported with home-learning and we are in the process of organizing this so that it can be available quickly, but in a manageable way, given that staff are teaching all day.

Many thanks for reading this letter and following this guidance when required. We will update you if anything changes. The following website contains useful information and will be published on the schools' websites - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Yours sincerely

Lucy Bates  
Headteacher

