Dear Parents and Carers

<u>RE: COVID-19 procedures at Park Hill Infant School</u>

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to clarify the guidance set out by the Department for Education (DfE) regarding possible COVID symptoms and the precautions schools are taking to protect the entire school community.

This extract in red has been copied straight from the Government's school guidance and explains why we are sending children home who display **any** of the COVID symptoms
(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#soc)

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 <u>guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection</u>, which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should <u>arrange to have a test</u> to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

The extract below in red have been copied from the Government guidance for households link (found here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, stay at home and arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 – go to <u>testing</u> to arrange.
If you have <u>symptoms</u> of COVID-19 however mild, self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started. You should arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 – go to <u>testing</u> to arrange. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.
If you live with others, all other household members need to stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

If your child displays any of the COVID symptoms whilst they are at school, we will contact you immediately to come collect your child and any of their siblings. The guidance is clear - **anyone who displays symptoms must isolate and get a test.** Once the test results come back negative, the child may return to school.
The number to call for a COVID test or to receive advice is 119.
Whilst I understand it might be upsetting that you and your family might need to isolate, particularly after just starting back, these measures set out by the government are there to protect us all.

For the reasons outlined above, we are asking all parents to follow this guidance to keep our children and school community safe.

For your information, a poster from Croydon Council is attached to this email.
I kindly ask that you read through it carefully and if you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Charman
Headteacher

<u>Useful Links</u>

Coronavirus (COVID19) : getting tested: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested

COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance

COVID Symptoms: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#symptoms

Help prevent COVID-19
For parents, carers and children in Croydon

Key actions
- **Know the symptoms**
- **Self isolate**
- **Request a Test**
- **Inform school**
- **Share contacts**

Remember
- Keep 2 metres away from other people when you are out of the house
- Walk or cycle to school if you can
- Wear face coverings when required
- Avoid large gatherings

Wash your hands more often and for 20 seconds

Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:
- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze or cough
- Eat or handle food

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze and throw the tissue away straight away

COVID19 symptoms

new and continuous cough

high temperature

or

loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Stop the spread of coronavirus

If your child has symptoms of COVID19
- Keep them at home for 10 days
- Other household members to self isolate for 14 days
- Request a COVID-19 test immediately. www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119.
- Keep your children's school/s informed

If your child has a positive COVID19 test
- Complete the 10-days isolation
- Other household members to isolate for 14 days
- Keep your children's school/s informed
- Share contacts with NHS Test and Trace

If NHS Test and Trace tells you that your child is 'a contact'
- Keep your child at home for 14 days
- Keep your child's school informed

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Information is correct as of 27.8.2020