Dear Parents/Carers

We are most grateful to parents who are erring on the side of caution and are not sending their children to school if they are in the least bit unwell.  We are also grateful to parents who are having their children tested to be sure that sore throats and coughs are not COVID related.  We have sent home a significant number of pupils this past week who are returning to school the following day, only to have to be sent home again. That said, we do totally understand that your child can be skipping out the door in the morning, fit and well, and can take ill as the day progresses.

**A reminder again of the message** from the NHS in relation to symptoms of the new variant.  Symptoms can include extreme tiredness, sore throat, headache, bit of a cough, even diarrhoea. The message remains, if there are symptoms of any sort, however mild, anything at all making your child feel ‘under the weather’ then **do not send them to school!** Schools have been advised to continue to have a ‘low threshold’ and are required to send pupils home immediately for anything that indicates they are feeling unwell.

**What should I do if my child is unwell?** If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school.  If your child is unwell but they are not displaying symptoms of coronavirus, please keep them at home until they are back in good health. For vomiting and/or diarrhoea, as per normal circumstances, they should remain at home for at least 48 hours after symptoms have passed. This now also relates to a fever or high temperature (alongside a negative coronavirus result) and they should not return to school for at least 48 hours after symptoms have passed.

COVID restrictions easing will bring excitement and joy for many, and fear and trepidation for others.  Notwithstanding the changes, we must all continue to be careful, responsible and vigilant.  In order to ensure that we do continue to make progress, we must continue to exercise good sense and caution:

* Continue to work from home where possible
* Be cautious about international travel
* Wear face coverings
* Avoid places that are busy
* Clean hands, clean surfaces that we or others are touching
* Maintain two metre distancing outside our home or garden
* Self-isolate and get tested if we have symptoms

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Please continue to stay safe.

Kindest regards

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**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**