



HINDLIP CE FIRST SCHOOL & TIBBERTON CE FIRST SCHOOL

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Friday 5th February 2020

Dear Parents,

Re: Updated COVID-19 testing guidance for wider symptoms

Over the last week you received two letters, both relating to the guidance our schools had received on the testing of pupils with wider COVID-19 symptoms. This guidance came directly from Worcester Children First and the Worcestershire County Council's Public Health team.

In short, it asked for pupils (and staff) displaying wider symptoms to book a PCR test, as children more likely to display these symptoms. It was hoped that this could help reduce transmission.

Wider symptoms:

Loss of Appetite	Sore Throat
Extreme Tiredness	Sneezing
Headaches	*Diarrhoea (must be clear of symptoms for 48hrs before returning to school)
Joint Pain or Muscle Ache	**Vomiting (must be clear of symptoms for 48hrs before returning to school)
Nausea	Runny Nose or Congestion

The recommendation to get a test for wider symptoms of COVID-19 has now been retracted and amended.

Instead, in order to detect cases earlier and reduce transmission, Public Health will be piloting the testing of children (not staff) with the wider symptoms of COVID-19 who are in school. Schools will be contacted by Public Health with details of the pilot and invited to take part. A review of the impact of this pilot on detecting cases, reducing transmission and testing capacity will indicate if this can continue to be offered to the pilot schools when schools fully open and/or extended to all schools/early years settings.

Apologies for the changing messages. I appreciate how closely you all work with us to keep everyone safe. It is good to be aware that these wider symptoms are often indicators in young children so that we can all remain vigilant.

It remains vital that if you, or anyone in your household, displays the three main COVID-19 symptoms (high temperature, new, continuous cough, loss or change of taste or sense of smell) then you and your household, must self-isolate (stay at home) immediately and book a Covid-19 test, letting school know ASAP.

Regards

Mr Gromski

Executive Headteacher

