

Together...

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Wednesday 16th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are receiving a high number of calls asking staff to decide whether a pupil should attend school when they are feeling unwell. Unfortunately, our staff are not medically trained and can only reiterate government guidance.

We have managed to identify additional information from the Department for Education and the NHS which is summarised below to help you determine whether to send your child to school.

Please, under no circumstances send your child to school with any of the following symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

If the symptoms do not fall into the descriptions above, the following questions and answers will help you decide whether to send your son or daughter to school.

What if my child has a minor cough?

Coughs can indeed be mild and children often get them. The NHS says it's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough.

But if it is a new and continuous cough this could be a symptom of coronavirus.

If your child is coughing continuously for more than an hour, or has three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours, then please keep them off school and request a test.

And if my child has a cold?

The NHS advises that if a child has mild cold-like symptoms they should continue to go to school. Common cold symptoms such as sore throats, blocked or runny noses are currently not recognised symptoms of coronavirus.

If your child is feeling unwell with different symptoms than those of coronavirus, you should treat those as you normally would.

More advice can be found on this NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Thank you in advance for your help.

Reculver Church of England Primary School