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Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware the numbers of cases of Coronavirus are increasing nationally and internationally, with the government moving to a national lockdown to reduce transmission. We are learning more about the virus and we are working hard to prevent spread whilst keeping children in school.

Coronavirus has three main symptoms; these are; a cough, loss or change in sense of smell or taste or a high temperature. When anyone displays these symptoms it is most likely a Coronavirus infection, we therefore ask you to isolate with your household, book a test, and if positive self-isolate for 10 days if you were the one who tested positive and 14 days if you are a household contact.

Before the Coronavirus pandemic we asked parents to keep their children home when they were unwell. Children will often develop colds in the winter months due to circulating illnesses and therefore other symptoms are more likely to indicate a cold. However, we have found that many children didn't display the main three signs of Coronavirus; their symptoms were a sore throat, or feeling really unwell, or muscle aches and pains. To prevent the transmission of Coronavirus this term, if your child is unwell, please keep them off school until they are feeling better. If they continue to be unwell and then develop a high temperature, loss or change in taste or smell or a new or worsening of a cough, then please self-isolate and get a Coronavirus test. Please see the flowchart for symptoms, figure 1.

Our schools are working tirelessly to maintain education provision in this crisis, please help your school. If your child is unwell, please keep them home until they are feeling better.

Signed

Public Health Warwickshire.

Figure 1: Coronavirus symptoms flowchart.

