



# The William Henry Smith School

18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The Government have now issued updated guidance in relation to Coronavirus which is dated to start today, 18.05.2020 Key information around identifying the symptoms and taking appropriate action is attached below.

## Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- loss or change to sense of smell or taste

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection

## Key messages

- if you or your child have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, please stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started. Anyone who does not have symptoms should self-isolate for 14 days from when the first person in the home started having symptoms.
- this action will help protect others in your community whilst you are infectious.
- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home.
- ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home.
- stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home whenever possible.
- sleep alone, if that is possible.
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water.
- stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions as much as possible.
- you do not need to call NHS111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial [999](#).

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With this advice in mind, it is clear we all have a responsibility to ourselves, each other, our families and our wider community to take this pandemic seriously: not to over react but to apply self-isolation for 7 days if **NEW** symptoms develop as stated previously:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- loss or change to sense of smell or taste

The key word for us all in this guidance is **NEW**.

**This means that your symptoms must have started from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and onwards. It does not apply to any previous symptoms before that date.**

Our further advice is as follows:

- Maintaining high standards of hand washing is essential. We will ensure students wash their hands well and on a regular basis. Hand sanitizers are available at many points around school and we will ask our community and essential visitors to use them.
- Social distancing of 2 metres
- We need clear communication from home if any student starts to show **NEW** symptoms (as above) or anyone in the household has symptoms and needs to stay at home.

I hope we can count on your support and vigilance in this very difficult period and that we can collectively work together to keep each other and our community safe and get back to enjoying learning in a friendly, healthy and successful school.

If you need any further information – please follow the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/#maincontent>

Best wishes to you and your families in this difficult period.

*Sara Hill*

Sara Hill  
School Nurse

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