

CANON POPHAM CofE PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Monday 22nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As I am sure you are aware, we constantly review our safety practice and procedures for COVID-19 in light of any changes to guidance or recommendations. The following change to guidance was issued to schools over the weekend, which is why we are writing to you again today.

The additional symptoms (aches and pains, sore throat, headache that won't go away, chills, stomach upset, extreme tiredness without a good cause etc.) are all accepted now as potential symptoms of COVID. Some local authorities in South Yorkshire are continuing to encourage people to be tested if they have these symptoms. In addition, we have found that some of the new cases across some of our Trust schools are evidencing these new symptoms rather than or in addition to the 3 traditional COVID symptoms.

Doncaster Local Authority have confirmed that PCR testing and self-isolation are **not** now required if your child or anyone in your household bubble has any of the additional potential symptoms, unless they have been in contact with anyone over the last 2 weeks who has tested positive for COVID. If you are concerned or in any doubt about if **any** symptoms could be a potential COVID risk, you should obtain a PCR test.

In this circumstance, when booking the test you should select 'on the advice of the Local Authority'.

The household **must** still self-isolate and obtain a PCR test if anyone has one of the traditional 3 symptoms, however mild.

These are

- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- New and persistent cough
- High temperature

As a school we are committed to ensuring that our children, staff and their families stay safe and we would therefore ask that you do not send your child into school before contacting us if they or someone in your household has any of the new additional symptoms. We would also strongly encourage you to take up the opportunity to regularly test your family using the Lateral Flow Tests which are widely available to families with children.

Please remember that you should NOT use Lateral Flow tests on anyone with the traditional COVID symptoms. They are only designed to be used when people have NO symptoms. If anyone has COVID symptoms they MUST get a PCR test.

Thank you for your support to ensure that our school stays open and our families stay safe and well.
Mrs Navas



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