

Hi everyone

I hope you have all had a lovely weekend - it's great that the good weather has decided to return.

The inevitable seems to have happened and we have a number of children off school with colds - and a couple of members of staff who have the sniffles. I can't imagine how tricky it is making that decision about whether your child is well enough to come to school or not in the current climate. However, we have had some direct advice from Public Health England today which might help you in making that decision. They have said that children and staff should come to school if they have any other than the three published symptoms: a continuous cough (3-4 bouts in an hour), a temperature or a loss of taste or smell. Obviously children will get colds - especially as they haven't mixed with as many friends as usual - and if you feel that their cold is bad enough for them to be at home then they should stay off school until they are well enough to return. However, they can come to school with a cold if they are able to manage it. Any child with a temperature needs to be at home and monitored until the temperature goes or until a test has been obtained.

Children with sickness and diarrhoea will need to be off school for the usual 48 hours after their last bout of illness. While they are ill you should be watchful for other symptoms and if these occur then seek a test for your child.

The 111 service can help but they have been overwhelmed, understandably, by parents anxious to do the right thing. We continue to be more than happy for you to call school to talk through your child's specific symptoms if that is helpful.

The children who have made it into school have continued to thrive and seem very happy to be back!

Best wishes
Jacky

Jacky Halton
Headteacher