Hydesville Tower School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the start of school on Monday. Staff have been in for the last two days putting the finishing touches on preparing to welcome the children back. As you would expect, we have spent considerable time on the elements around keeping everyone as safe as possible. These have been worrying times for all of our community but we are confident in our ability to resume the education of our pupils whilst looking after the health of all on site.

Your co-operation on this is fully appreciated, and this letter details final points about determining if your child should come to school on any given morning. Evidently if any potential infection is not brought to school, our chance to protect everyone increases, so it is in all our interests that this is observed fully. The risk to young people from COVID-19 is very low; however, it is important that we all follow these rules to reduce the spread of the virus within our community.

It is important that no one attends school who is showing any of the symptoms of COVID-19. These are:

- A high temperature this means the child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).
- A new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- A loss or change to their sense of smell or taste this means they have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child has <u>any</u> of these symptoms, they must not come to school. Please inform us immediately. You must get them tested as soon as possible by booking online. They then must stay at home and you should not have visitors until you get the test result. Anyone in the family or support bubble must also stay at home until you get the result.

Pupils should self-isolate for at least 10 days if:

- They have symptoms of COVID-19 and have tested positive, had an unclear result or did not have a test.
- They have tested positive but have not had symptoms.

If they have symptoms, the 10 days starts from when they started having symptoms. If they have not had symptoms, the 10 days starts from when they had the test. If they get symptoms after the test, they need to self-isolate for a further 10 days from when symptoms start.

Self-isolation can end after 10 days if either:

- They do not have any symptoms.
- They just have a cough or changes to their sense of smell or taste these can last for weeks after the infection has gone.

If you have been told your son/daughter has been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19:

- They should stay at home (self-isolate) for 14 days from the day they were last in contact with the person it can take up to 14 days for symptoms to appear.
- They should not leave your home for any reason.
- Do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family except for essential care.
- Try to avoid contact with others in the house as much as possible.
- Others in the accommodation do not need to self-isolate if they do not have symptoms.

If your child develops any of the main symptoms during the school day, they must immediately report this to a member of staff. They will be held in isolation until you are able to pick them up to get tested. While we will follow all the necessary protocols and the staff will wear PPE, we will, of course, be as reassuring as possible.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the above and its implementation. Together, we can minimise the risks of infection and ensure the education of our children remains as strong as always.

Kind regards

Warren Honey Headmaster

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