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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been informed this weekend that one of our families is self isolating as a precautionary measure as one of their children is displaying some symptoms associated with the COVID-19 virus.

In accordance with national guidance, if your child is experiencing a new persistent cough or high temperature, please contact the school to notify us that your child will be absent and that you will be self-isolating them for 7 days. In this circumstance, there is no need to phone daily and report your child absent. If your child is absent with any other symptoms please follow the normal school procedure to notify us of their absence on a daily basis.

The DFE Coronavirus Helpline and the Public Health Team are currently advising that if children are not displaying symptoms, they should be attending school. They reiterated the Government guidelines that even if one member of the family has symptoms and is in self-isolation, children should still be coming to school if they don't have any symptoms – the whole family does not have to be in self-isolation. We have been advised that if children are staying at home and do not have symptoms this has to be noted as an unauthorised absence. If you have any concerns or would like any further advice, please do come and speak to me or Mrs Woodland.

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows: **Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday).**

As I am sure you can appreciate, there are frequent updates to official guidelines changing daily. We will endeavour to keep you updated as we receive new information.

Keep reinforcing the washing hands rules to your children - The e-Bug project is led by Public Health England and has a dedicated webpage for learning resources on hand washing and respiratory hygiene. Resources are currently available for KS1, KS2 and KS3 and can be used in various settings including schools:

- <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools>

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Headteacher

Love Trust Respect Honesty Forgiveness Perseverance



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Canterbury
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