

Aspiration
Respect
Endeavour

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Roding Valley
HIGH SCHOOL

7th October 2020

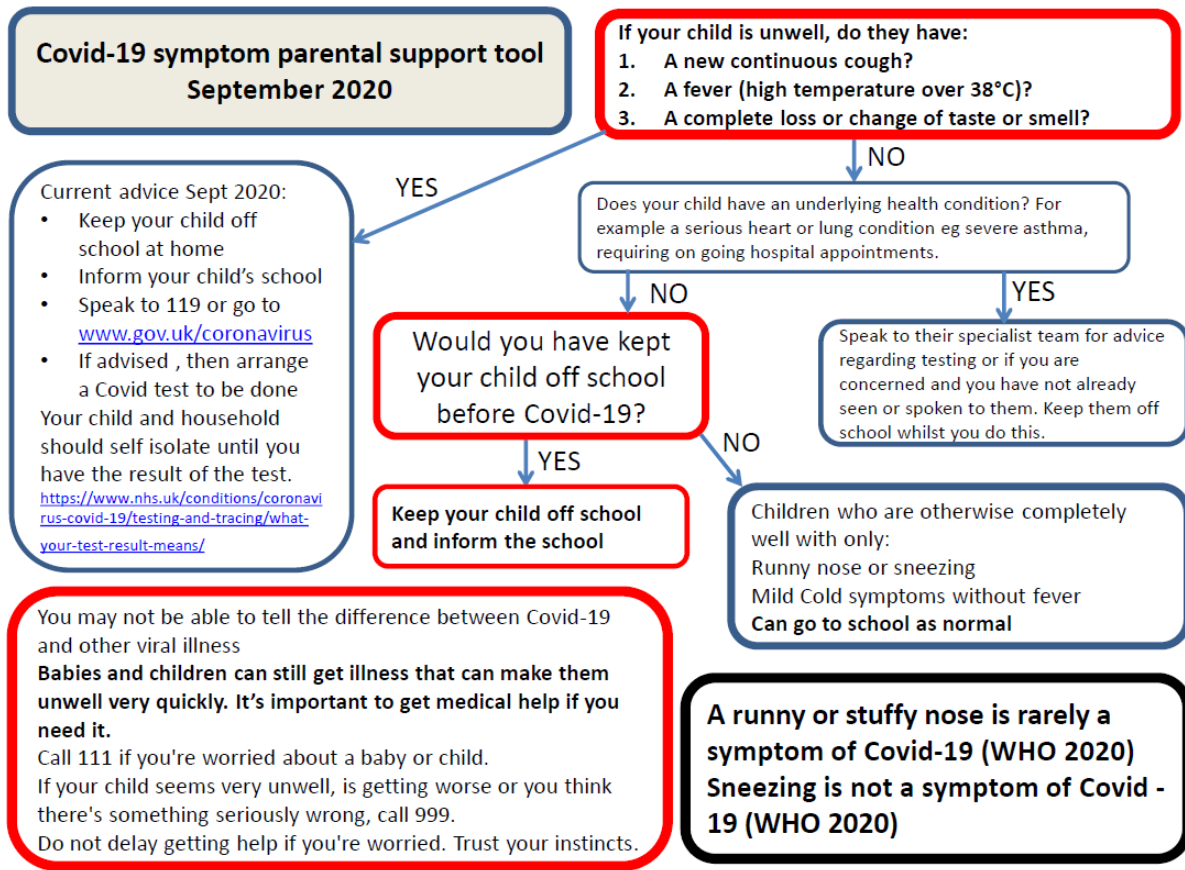
Dear Parents / Carers

I hope my communication finds you well. I must say, you should be exceptionally proud of how your children have adapted to the changes we have made in school to keep them safe. One way systems, zoned break times and teachers moving for the majority of the time rather than classes is a big change and the vast majority of students have adapted and been flexible beyond our expectations. All students are now in the routine of applying face coverings in communal spaces and using the hand sanitiser stations or carrying their own as part of their daily routines. I for one am very proud of the resilience they have shown.

We are very grateful for the time you have taken to plan your children's journeys to school in the morning ensuring they arrive on time. Please do continue to remind them of the importance of wearing a face covering on all public transport and other public places such as Sainsbury's and other local stores. Anxieties around the activities of young people in the local area are heightened at the moment, so it remains even more important than ever that our students go straight home and do not congregate in groups. While the "rule of six" does not apply on our school site, as soon as students leave the school, this law must be adhered to.

Please see below, what I believe is a helpful guide for parents and carers when determining whether your child should attend school or not. I am sure the information I shared previously in this letter [here](#) is still fresh in your minds, but this visual guide may also provide some additional support in the difficult decision process in the current Covid-19 climate. Thank you to those of you who have been so supportive of the measures we have taken to keep all our community safe and reduce the risks. An important part of the process is you contacting us on the first day of absence and every subsequent day with an update - an important part of our safety plan.





While we continue to try and reduce the risk of Covid-19 being brought into our school community, can I please remind you that parents and carers should only attend our school site and visit reception with a pre-arranged appointment. Only in the event of a family emergency requiring you to collect your child, should you attend reception and if this is the case, we would be grateful if you rang ahead to warn us of your imminent arrival. We cannot currently accept parents and carers arriving on site to drop forgotten items off to students. I am sure you will appreciate we are trying to keep visitors to the school to an absolute minimum. If you do have an appointment, please understand that you may still be asked to wait outside if the main reception area is busy for other reasons.



One last thing that has been brought to our attention; a number of parents are using the zebra crossing at the front of the school as a “drop off” point. I am sure you will appreciate this is incredibly dangerous and holds the traffic in our local community up even further. Please ensure you use the surrounding side streets and take all appropriate highway safety precautions when dropping you children off to school.

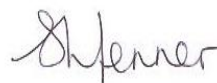
Please do remind your children that we are only ever an email away in the event of them needing advice or guidance, someone to talk to. iamnotok@rodingvalley.net is a dedicated email for any student, any time, if they feel there is something they need to discuss and haven't been able to find the right person in school. This email can of course be used out of school hours and is carefully monitored.

The theme for our assemblies this week is ‘bereavement.’ I have previously shared these two websites with you: [Live Well website](#) and [Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service](#) however the assemblies may spark some conversations, so I thought it may be helpful to reshare these useful links. As always, if you require any support accessing the appropriate service, please do not hesitate to contact myself or one of my team.

Yours faithfully



Sam Dyer
Deputy Headteacher



Sharon Jenner
Headteacher



