

# West Pelton Primary School & Nursery



West Pelton Primary School, Twizell Lane, West Pelton, Durham DH9 6SQ Tel: 0191 3700238

email: [p2114.admin@durhamlearning.net](mailto:p2114.admin@durhamlearning.net) website: <http://www.westpelton.durham.sch.uk/>

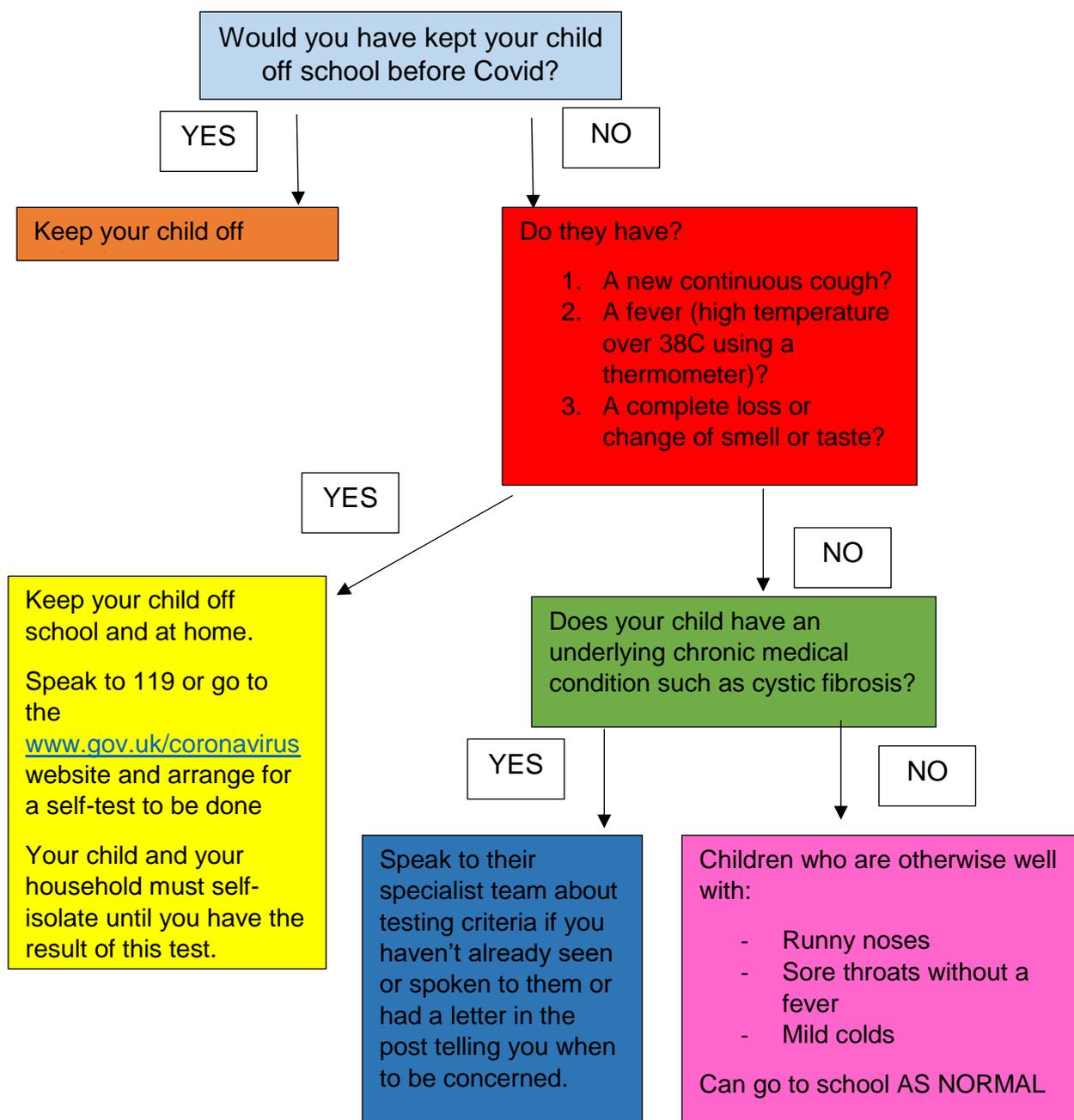
Headteacher: Ms V Hewison

14/09/20

Dear Parents,

## Covid-19 update

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding with our current school procedures. We are continually reviewing the routines in school to ensure we keep both our children and our community as safe as we possibly can. With this in mind there is a flow chart below to help you if your child becomes unwell:



At times it may be difficult to tell if your child has these symptoms therefore we are using the current NHS guidance on these symptoms:

## Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your 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 you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

We have also been sent the following information from the Covid Study via the Local Authority

### **Back to school: the real symptoms to look out for in children**

*According to research from the COVID Symptom Study app over half (52%) of children school aged children (those under the age of 18) who tested positive for COVID don't log any 'adult' classic symptoms (cough, fever, anosmia) in the week before and after the test. In addition, a third (33%) of children who tested positive for COVID never logged any of the 20 symptoms listed in the App suggesting many children are asymptomatic.*

*With children heading back to school this week it is important that parents and teachers are aware of all the symptoms that children might present with to make the right decision when it comes to sending them back to the classroom. The research highlighted that children display a different range of symptoms compared to the overall adult population. The top five symptoms in school aged children who test positive for COVID are; fatigue (55%) headache (53%), fever (49%), sore throat (38%) and loss of appetite (35%). This was different compared to the App's data on adults; fatigue (87%), headache (72%), loss of smell (60%), persistent cough (54%) and sore throat (49%). In addition to this, research from the app has also found that one in six (15%) children who test positive for COVID also present with an unusual skin rash.*

Please note, the school is following the most recent advice from the department of Education if a child becomes unwell:



Department  
for Education

## What to do if a pupil is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

If anyone in your school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and be advised to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a [test to see if they have coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

We have seen other local authorities in the north east added to the government's 'watch list' and 'enhanced support list' therefore it is essential that we continue to work together and follow the systems we have put in place such as the staggered start and end times to the school day and the current restrictions we have on items brought from home to school as well as following the guidance above.

### Reminder – drop off and collection times for all children

NB siblings can arrive/depart together at the earlier time slots

Class	Drop off time	Location	Collection time	Location
Nursery	8:45am – 8:55am	Bottom playground gate	12 noon	Main gate at the school entrance
Reception / Year 1 / Year 2	8:55am – 9:05am	Bottom playground gate	3:00pm – 3:10pm	Bottom playground gate
Year 3 / Year 4	8:55am – 9:05am	Bottom playground gate	3:10pm – 3:20pm	Bottom playground gate
Year 5 / Year 6	9:05am – 9:15am	Bottom playground gate	3:20pm – 3:30pm	Bottom playground gate

We hope that we do not have to maintain this new way of working for much longer but at the moment we must follow the advice from the Department for Education and government.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

*V. Hewison*

Ms V Hewison

