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Dear Parents and Carers,

In our Newsletter on Friday I emphasised the importance of good and open communication during these troubling times. In light of this I will try to send a brief message home each day to keep you all in the picture.

I am glad to say that we still do not have any staff absent from St Peter's with any Coronavirus symptoms.

However this is not the case at our partner school, Ramsgate Holy Trinity, where there are several staff having to self-isolate or at several other local schools.

We understand that these are very worrying times, and we know that you will all be trying to make decisions that you feel are right for you and your family. If you or a close family member have the symptoms and are self-isolating you will probably be considering withdrawing your child from school as a precautionary measure. It may also be the case that your child or a member of the household has an underlying medical condition where you feel that minimising the chance of infection by keeping your child at home is a sensible precaution.

We would like to assure you that we understand such concerns and will treat any absences sympathetically. In practice this means that we will 'Y code' this absence. This means that the absence will not count against either the individual child's or the school's record of attendance.

So that you know, the today's updated guidance from the Department of Education states:

- staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise they should attend education or work as normal
- if staff, young people or children become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home

I want you to know that we are doing all we can to minimise the risk, reducing non-vital visits or visitors, reinforcing good hygiene practices with the children and keeping the school as clean as possible – which is all we can do until the government tells us what is next for schools.

Yours,

Tim Hunter-Whitehouse, Headteacher

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
John 3v16



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