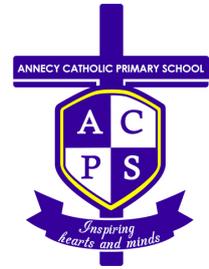


ANNECY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring hearts and minds to grow"

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Headteacher: Paul Gallagher
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton



Annecy Catholic Primary School is part of Bosco Catholic Education Trust

14 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID

As the school has returned, some families have asked what to do if their child has a cold. The Department for Education has worked closely with Public Health England and NSH Test and Trace to ensure that we are doing all we can to minimise the potential risks of spread. A key part of this is recognising the correct symptoms.

We have been asked to recommend that pupils and staff who feel unwell should get tested if they develop one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms. If your child has any of these symptoms, they must not attend school:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (no need to take temperature)
- A new, continuous cough - Your child needs to be tested if they have a cough that has lasted for more than an hour, if they have had three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours or if they are coughing more than usual.
- Loss or change of sense of taste or smell – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to normal
- Recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider

If any child becomes unwell during the school day with any of the main symptoms, you will be contacted to collect them. All household members will need to isolate and are advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infections. Therefore, if any member of your household displays symptoms, your child (and siblings) must not come to school.

As in any year, children may pick up common colds or bugs. A runny nose or sore throat is not one of the main symptoms of coronavirus and children can still attend school in this instance. We are not medical practitioners at school. We cannot offer you guidance or advice when it comes to the well-being of your child and whether a cough or temperature is related to covid or not. We have guidance from government that we must follow, no matter how inconvenient or disruptive that guidance may seem. As Headteacher, I have a duty of care to children and staff at the school. It would be remiss of me to allow children or staff to attend school if they had a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste.

It is inconvenient to test/self-isolate, especially if you believe it to be non-covid related. We understand that this is upsetting and frustrating. However, there is nothing we can do about this. It is not appropriate to get upset or frustrated with staff, when they explain the situation to you. Please be respectful to staff at all times, but particularly during these challenging times where we all feel the additional pressures.

For those children that are having to self-isolate, the school will be able to provide work either through Google Classroom or with paper copies. It is important that you contact your child's class teacher and let them know what format you would like to receive the work.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes

Paul Gallagher – Headteacher

