**Headteacher** John Galvin

**Petworth C of E Primary School** 

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## 18 September 2020

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for the continued support in these difficult times, however it is essential that we continue adhering to our start / finish school times, maintaining social distance at all times. Mrs Sandon-Webb and myself stand at each entrance / exit to the school for 35 minutes before and after school and we are so grateful for the constant messages of support, discussions about children as well as seeing the smiling faces of the children.

Since we have returned to school, we have had many discussions regarding children and adult illnesses. If you tell us your child or a member of their household has **any** of the main coronavirus symptoms, which are according to NHS:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal;

we will insist that the child does not attend school; we will advise the whole family to self-isolate; and that anyone in the household has symptoms gets a test. These are not our rules but the rules outlined by our government, who have been advised by people far more intelligent than myself. I fully appreciate the difficulties getting a test or the financial burden this could place on the whole family.

If your child just has a runny nose they can attend school, provided they are well enough, as we desperately want them to attend school. However, it is vital you are honest and socially responsible as I have over 220 children and adults to consider.

We are constantly reviewing our risk assessment and the procedures we have in school. Your children have been brilliant at accepting and working with the new restrictions placed on them.

Yours sincerely

John Galvin Headteacher