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Dear parents & carers,

Following the governments press conference yesterday evening we need to update you on the changes to the government's advice aimed at delaying the spread of Covid-19.

The school remains open and we have not been notified of any symptoms in our school community that suggest the presence of the virus. Please continue to send your child to school as normal unless he/she develops a cough or has a high temperature of 37.5C. Should they present with either of these symptoms you should keep them home and isolate for 7days and inform the school of the reason for their absence.

New advice from the government is that if there is a person in the household with these symptoms then the whole family must self-isolate for 14 days. Therefore, you must not send your child to school, even if they themselves do not show any symptoms, if anybody in the household has a persistent cough or a high temperature.

If your child begins to show either of these symptoms whilst in school you will be contacted and asked to collect your child for the protection of the whole school community. Advice on self-isolating at home can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

We will share any changes to our status on the school website and via direct communications with you. Should we receive guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) or Public Health England that the school should close then we will communicate this with you as soon as possible. The current guidance is that schools should remain open as usual.

The Department for Education helpline has been launched to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Thank you for your continued support to keep our school community healthy.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Maynard
Head of School
The New Rush Hall School