

CWA/LDA/GHA

3 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Back to School Advice from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

First of all, I hope this correspondence finds you well after what I also hope was a pleasant festive period.

As you may have seen and heard via yesterday's various news outlets, flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported.

Yesterday afternoon, Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UKHSA said, *'It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. Therefore, if your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.'*

Professor Hopkins went on to say, *'Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.'*

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information [getting your child vaccinated against flu](#) on NHS.UK.'

We will also continue to have hand sanitiser in every classroom and office and your usual excellent standard of communication in letting our attendance team know of any flu, COVID-19 or scarlet fever strep A cases would be greatly appreciated.

I will conclude this correspondence by wishing all of our families a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year ahead.

Yours sincerely



Mr C A Wakefield
Executive Principal