



6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you have enjoyed a pleasant and restful Christmas holiday together and have started the New Year with positive wellbeing. However, we are aware of high levels of flu and potentially Covid-19 and scarlet fever within the wider community, which have understandably caused families concern. We thought it would be helpful to share the most recent guidance to ensure that you are fully informed, and to also encourage good attendance, as we all want our children to have as strong attendance as possible; having lost so much learning during the pandemic, it is important that students are in school as much as possible, keeping up with their learning.

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Advisor at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has suggested that children should remain home if they have a fever (temperature of above 38), until the fever has resolved.

However, for very normal coughs and colds, we would appreciate it if parents/carers could remind their children to practise good hygiene, such as washing their hands as frequently as possible (always after visiting the toilet), and also having tissues to catch sneezes, and hand sanitiser to use whilst in the classroom. Of course, they are also most welcome to wear a face covering if they wish, particularly if they have a bit of a cold and may still be sneezing or coughing. It is likely that these symptoms will take longer to resolve, and unless very unwell, we would prefer students to be in school.

However, more serious cases of 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. If you wish to get your child vaccinated, you can secure further information here: [getting your child vaccinated](#) against flu on [NHS.UK](#).

As always, the Medical and Welfare Team at Vyners are here to support students. Please contact the team via the school telephone number, 01895 234342 and press option 2 if you have any questions or wish to send in any daytime medication.

Yours sincerely

**Gary Mullings**  
**Headteacher**

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