Dear Parents and Carers,

As the national response to Covid-19 develops and changes, we have received some updated guidance from Staffordshire County Council that we have been asked to share with you. This is new guidance around accessing a test for Covid-19.

Message from Staffordshire County Council

 It is important to remember that anyone who has one of the main Covid-19 symptoms of a persistent cough, a high temperature, a new cough or the loss of taste or smell must self-isolate immediately and book a test.

 However, with many people displaying other symptoms, the local authority are asking residents in Staffordshire to consider getting tested as a precaution if they have other symptoms such as:

• *Headaches*

• *Aches and pains*

• *Feeling very tired for no good reason*

• *Sore throat*

• *Runny nose*

• *Sneezing*

• *Sometimes 'tummy ache' in children*

People with any of these symptoms can carry on going to school or work if they are well enough to do so and only need to self-isolate if the test comes back positive.

The national testing centres across the county have good availability, and can be booked through the NHS website. People booking a test through this website need to check the 'My council has asked me to get a test' option.

There are community testing sites that change on a weekly basis. People can view if there are any sites set up near them by visiting
https://staffordshire.zipporah.co.uk/TrackAndTrace