



TANFIELD  
SCHOOL

HARD WORK | TRUST | FAIRNESS

14th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### Winter Illnesses

As we approach the winter season, colds, flus and other respiratory illnesses are more common in colder months. People are indoors more often, allowing viruses to pass more easily from one person to another.

There are government guidelines for schools about managing specific infectious diseases. These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. *Further information and guidance can be found on the NHS website.*

However, it is fine to send your child to school with a slight headache, stomach ache/cramps, minor cough, sore throat or common cold. If your child needs to take any prescription, pharmacy medicines or general sales remedies, please contact your child's Year Manager as these can be administered in school.

If your child has a cold, please encourage your child to bring tissues and throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

If your child comes to school and they still feel too unwell to participate in lessons, we will always contact you in order to make arrangements for them to go home.

It is always best to try to encourage your child to attend school first rather than to have a day off and miss valuable learning. As you know, children very often make a remarkable recovery by lunchtime. If you have kept your child off in the morning and they are feeling better by mid morning, then please consider sending them to school. In cases where they get school transport please ring us to see if we can assist in getting them to school.

It is important to note that:

- 90% of young people with attendance rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs at all
- poor examination results limit young people's options and poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable

Yours sincerely

Mr C Jones  
**Deputy Headteacher**

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