



# Tomlinscote School

25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to inform you that a couple of our students have been diagnosed with whooping cough in the past few days. I thought that you should be aware so that if your child did start to show symptoms, then you can contact your GP as soon as possible.

Please see the information below from the UK Health Security Agency (March 2024):

*Whooping cough, clinically known as pertussis, is a bacterial infection which affects the lungs. The first signs of infection are similar to a cold, such as a runny nose and sore throat, but after about a week, the infection can develop into coughing bouts that last for a few minutes and are typically worse at night.*

*If anyone in your family is diagnosed with whooping cough, it's important they stay at home and do not go into work, school or nursery until 48 hours after starting antibiotics, or 3 weeks after symptoms start if they have not had antibiotics.*

*Parents can also help protect their children by ensuring they receive their vaccines at the right time or catching up as soon as possible if they have missed any.*

I appreciate that there are lots of different illnesses within our community, but I thought that you should be made aware of this one at present.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Major  
Principal