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20<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents/ carers,

We have been asked pass on this information by the NHS:

## ALDER HEY'S LAUNCHES NEW 'SYMPTOM CHECKER' FOR CHILDREN

Clinicians at Alder Hey have developed a new '<u>Symptom Checker</u>' to help parents and carers understand their poorly child's symptoms and what they can do for them.

The fast, easy to use and reliable online <u>Symptom Checker</u> offers parents and carers information on several of the most common symptoms in children requiring urgent care. Using the <u>Symptom Checker</u> will help parents and carers decide where best to get the right care for their child, be it at home, at their local chemist, walk-in centre or GP, or with a trip to Alder Hey's Emergency Department.

Developed by the doctors and nurses at Alder Hey working alongside the Trust's Digital team, the <u>Symptom</u> <u>Checker</u> will help guide parents and carers with what they can do at a time that can be understandably stressful. Advice can be trusted because it has been developed using information from the NHS and Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health as well as the expertise of the clinicians from Alder Hey.

The <u>Symptom Checker</u> can be found from the homepage of Alder Hey's website at <u>www.alderhey.nhs.uk</u> or directly at <u>www.alderhey.nhs.uk/symptom-checker</u>. It currently offers advice on 17 common symptoms with plans to grow this number over coming weeks. Users select one of the symptoms and are then presented with a range of easy to follow advice.

In addition to using our <u>Symptom Checker</u>, you can call NHS 111, or go to <u>https://111.nhs.uk/</u>, for advice on finding the right support.

There is also lots of helpful advice on how to treat conditions on the NHS website - <u>www.nhs.uk/conditions</u>.

People can contact their GP Surgery to request an appointment. Evening and weekend appointments are available.

Liverpool Walk-in Centres are also available. They operate daily between 8am – 8pm. Please call 0300 100 1004 to arrange an appointment directly.

You can also visit your local pharmacy, who will be able provide advice on self-care at home.

Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust



"With Jesus, we can achieve what we dream and believe"