



## St. Mary's Church of England VC Infant School

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Headteacher: Miss Verity Edey

Deputy Head: Mrs Kathryn Thorp

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to you further to the recent Government update. Following the Prime Minister's announcement on 31 October, [new national restrictions](#) will come into force today, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

You will be aware that the situation regarding coronavirus continues to be extremely challenging, and it is clear from the Government's announcements over the weekend that restrictions and measures will remain in place for the foreseeable future. Whilst this is something that none of us want, the hard fact is that we all have to get on with it, ensuring that we remain vigilant and compliant with whatever requirements are in place to keep individuals and the community in the best possible health.

I have now received updates from the DfE outlining what these new national restrictions mean for education and childcare setting. We have also today received further guidance from Hertfordshire County Council. This guidance provides sector specific information and covers the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable children, young people and staff, advice on the use of face coverings in education settings and educational trips.

Given this new guidance, we are reviewing our current risk assessments and existing processes. Should there be anything to share with you, I will of course do so.

In the meantime, I do need to urge you to follow the national guidance and carefully consider how social interactions linked with children attending school are managed.

- Registered childminders can still collect, and all our breakfast/after-school Jousters provision can currently continue.
- If your child is due to be collected by a friend or another family, please do read the latest guidance as **there are now restrictions on childcare arrangements e.g. a family can only link to one other** for informal childcare arrangements.

**At this time, it is extremely important that children are brought to school and collected by only ONE parent.**

Finally, evidence regarding the high transmission of this virus through close physical contact is strongly evident. Please make sure that you take all necessary measure to reduce the risk of transmitting or contracting the virus – including maintaining a safe distance from other people, when on or around the school site and not walking to or from school with other family groups. We also strongly recommend parents to wear a mask when dropping off or collecting their children.

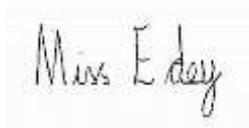
*'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'*

**IMPORTANT – CHANGE TO OCCASIONAL DAY**

In light of the National Lockdown, along with other Baldock schools, we have taken the decision to move our planned Occasional Day from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November to **now take place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.** We have done this in the hope that lockdown will be over/lifted and, therefore, enable everyone in the school community to make the most of this day – meeting up, going shopping etc, rather than being housebound! **Should the lockdown be extended, we will not change this date again from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. Stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miss Edey". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Miss V Edey  
Headteacher