



St. Mary's Church of England VC Infant School

St Mary's Way, Baldock, Herts, SG7 6HY

Telephone: 01462 892347

E-mail: admin@stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss Verity Edey

www.stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk

Deputy Head: Mrs Kathryn Thorp

Tuesday 14th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your loved ones are all healthy.

I wanted to give you an update with regards to our current Covid situation. Our Covid numbers have reduced over the last week. Whilst we were in a position with no live cases in the school yesterday, we have been informed of 3 positive cases this morning. Whilst we have not reached 10% of a class being positive to be considered as an outbreak school, we are going to continue with our current measures given that there are only 5.5 teaching days before Christmas. Pupils are in a consistent routine, and we would like to reduce disruption and change again before the end of term as well as continue to reduce the spread further before Christmas. This will not affect the delivery of the curriculum, pupils will continue to be separated, however staff will operate across bubbles as normal.

The following will still be in place:

Face Coverings

- **These must be worn by all parents, carers, visitors and staff unless medically exempt. This includes at drop off and collection.**

Shared Areas

- Year groups will continue to be a bubble. We will therefore have three bubbles within the school. These bubbles will not mix with other year groups.

Limited Activity

- **Open days will take place outside the building**
- **Visitors will not be permitted on site unless for the essential running of the school. Any visitors who do attend site must take an LFD test prior to arrival.**
- **The Christmas church service will be cancelled. Parents have received an update from Mrs Thorp regarding this.**
- **Assemblies and worship will take place remotely**
- **Offsite visits will be postponed**
- **Wrap around care will continue with additional measures in place**

Reduction in interaction / close contact situations

- All meetings with parents will be remote.

Testing

- Please test your child if they have symptoms which are not those commonly associated to Covid as we have found that **headaches and colds** are a common theme for positive tests.

General COVID information



'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'



Symptoms

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you are not sure whether you or your child's symptoms suggest that they have coronavirus or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. If you are concerned about your child's health or the health of anyone else in your household please seek advice from your GP, use NHS 111 online <https://111.nhs.uk/> or call NHS 111.

There are things you can do to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get to your destination
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you for your co-operation, we wish those affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) a speedy recovery.

Yours sincerely

Miss Edey
Headteacher



'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'



Appendix A

How to book a test online when you have been identified as a close contact but do not have symptoms yourself

1. Go to [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
2. Scroll down and select start now
3. Is the person who needs a test an essential worker? **Select NO**
4. Test available scroll to bottom **Select continue**
5. Does the person who needs a test have coronavirus symptoms? **Select NO, none of these symptoms**
6. Has the person been asked to get a follow-up test? **Select NO**
7. Is the person who needs a test part of a trial or government pilot project? **Select none of the above.**
8. Why are you asking for a test? **Select I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional.** Then **Select My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms. Select continue**
9. Complete your details and select how you wish to receive your test.



'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'

