



St. Mary's Church of England VC Infant School

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Headteacher: Miss Verity Edey

Deputy Head: Mrs Kathryn Thorp

Thursday 16th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach our Christmas break, I wanted to write to remind you how to contact the school should your child test positive for Covid over the holiday.

It is essential that you contact us using the covid@stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk email address if your child tests positive for COVID-19 after leaving school on Tuesday 21st December 2021 up to, and including, Wednesday 5th January 2022.

You MUST provide the following details when sending your email notification:

- Name of child who has tested positive
- Class the child is in
- Date of first symptoms
- Was a Lateral Flow Test taken, and if so, the result
- Date of positive PCR test result
- Date your child was last in school

Main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- 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 symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please do not send children back to nursery or school if any of the following apply:

- they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) they, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen) have tested positive for COVID-19
- they haven't completed the full 10 day isolation period requested

From 14 December, all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow



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device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The UKHSA have provided this guidance on LFD testing for children and young people:

What is the minimum age for daily testing for contacts of Covid-19?	With parental consent, children aged 5 and over can participate in daily testing for contacts of Covid-19.
Can children participate in daily testing for contacts of Covid-19?	Daily testing for contacts of Covid-19 is available to children aged 5 and over. It is strongly encouraged for 12-18 year olds but left to the discretion of parents/guardians for under-12s.

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

Thank you for your on-going support and understanding.

Kind regards

Miss V Edey
Headteacher



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