

St. Austin's R.C. Primary School

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Headteacher: **Mrs P. Wade** BA; PGCE; NPQH



Grow In Faith Together

14.01.22

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Covid-19 omicron variant is still prevalent in our school community. We are currently experiencing an increase in positive cases throughout the school. To help protect **all** our school community I request that:

- All visitors wear a face covering when visiting the school office, unless exempt.
- Where possible, children are tested regularly using lateral flow tests. Please report any positive results via the school office and follow the current isolation guidelines.
- All visitors wear a face covering while dropping off and collecting children from school unless exempt and leave the premises promptly. No gathering on the school playground or around school gates please.
- All pupils arrive at School on time.

With effect from Tuesday, 11th January 2022 rules on isolation have changed. If a child has a positive lateral flow test (LFT) there is no need for a PCR test unless your child has the main symptoms of Covid-19.

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported to NHS Test and Trace.



If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Remote Learning

If your child should need to isolate they can access learning via their class Teams page for Y2 to Y6 and SeeSaw for Nursery to Y1. Completed work should be returned as directed by the class teacher and any queries can be communicated to the teacher via the Platforms. If you do not have a device please speak to Mrs Shepherd at the school office. If a child is isolating because they are unwell then there is obviously no need for them to complete home learning.

Attendance

The School will be working with the Education Welfare Service this academic year. I would ask for your co-operation with the following:

- The start of the school day for Foundation and Y1 & Y2 pupils is 9am and Y3 to Y6 is 8.55am. Gates open for KS1 and KS2 pupils at 8.50am. Children arriving after the start of the school day will be marked as 'Late' in the register. To minimise disruption to lessons, please ensure your child arrives in School on time ready to start lessons at the start of the school day.
- If your child is going to be absent due to illness, please contact the school office before 9.15am.
- **Requests for Leave of Absence** (in term time) - Regular and punctual attendance of pupils at school is both a legal requirement and is essential in order for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities. Term time absence can only be authorised in **exceptional** circumstances and these are very rare. **Holidays in term time cannot be authorised.** Any request for leave of absence must be made in writing with **evidence provided** of the exceptional circumstances and must be submitted well in advance.

Tempest Photography

Tempest Photography visited school this week. Your child will bring home their proof and order form. All orders should be placed with Tempest direct within 7 days to take advantage of free postage and packing. Please do not send any order forms/payments to school.

If your child did not have their photograph taken this week the school has organised for Tempest Photography to visit later this academic year, date to be advised.

Y6 Booster Sessions

Y6 Booster sessions will take place each Tuesday and Thursday after school 3.25pm to 4.30pm until further notice.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Wade
Headteacher



