

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School



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Wednesday 16th September

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your vigilance and for your participation in our information evenings. We are working hard to resolve any technical issues and are grateful for your patience and continued support.

I am writing to you today to clarify what you should do if your child exhibits symptoms of COVID 19. I am aware that we are providing you with a lot of information at the moment and I would like to be able to provide more information about the curriculum and well-being on Friday so I have chosen to address this now, particularly in light of the lack of tests that are currently available.

Within school we are closely monitoring children and remain vigilant for the main symptoms of the COVID 19 which are identified as:

- a high temperature
- a new persistent cough
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If there is a suspected case of COVID 19 within school, pupils will be moved away from other children and isolated in our medical room, which will only be used for these cases. We will contact the child's family and ask for them to be tested. There will be a thorough cleaning of all contact areas and we will seek permission to share information with the other members of the "bubble". We will not be sharing names of pupils or staff.

Once a child, or member of staff, has received a negative test result they are able to return to school once their temperature has returned to normal. If you cannot obtain a test or refuse to be tested, unfortunately you will need to isolate for 14 days. If a child, or member of staff, receives a positive test result then they, their bubble and their household will be contacted by NHS Test and Track and they will be told to isolate. Those with symptoms will be tested.

If your child exhibits symptoms at home, please do not send them into school. We would also be grateful if you could inform the school if you are isolating for this reason. You can inform us of all absence via the following email address: absence@st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk
We will then be able to tell the other members of the "bubble". This would not involve us providing any specific information but would ensure that everyone remains informed and vigilant.

If you have one child with symptoms or a positive test, government guidance says that the whole household should stay at home. Staying at home will help prevent the spread of the virus to family, friends and the wider community. Other household members need to stay at home and should not leave the house for 14 days. More information regarding this can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>



Whilst bubbles or households are isolating and whilst children are awaiting test results, they will be able to access learning via their Google classroom. A guide about how to access Google classroom is attached and you should contact the school office if you need your child's lgfl username and password.

After such a long absence from school, asking children and families to isolate will only take place when absolutely necessary. We continue to put in place measures to try and minimise the possibility of the virus spreading and I am grateful for all that you are doing to try and ensure social distancing when you are on the school site. I know you will appreciate that it is only by us all following this guidance that we can ensure the safety of our pupils and our wider community. Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Hughes
Headteacher

