



St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School

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Thursday 21st January

Dear Parents,

As you may know, testing has now been put in place for school staff. As many of you are already tested as part of your own critical work you will be aware that the testing is aimed at identifying asymptomatic carriers. This will help us to isolate these cases and stop the spread of the virus. This will help safeguard our community and, long term, will enable us to have more certainty about the provision we will be able to have in place both at school and online.

The testing also fulfils another function as results will be recorded and this information will be used to develop a deeper understanding of the virus and how it is spread.

Testing is due to commence on Monday 25th January. It is optional but the vast majority of our staff will be participating. If there is a positive result and your child has been in close contact with this person then their bubble will be shut and they will be asked to isolate for 10 days. If there is a positive case we will inform you via SCOPay as soon as possible and no later than 6.30pm the day before unless there are circumstances beyond our control. If you do not receive a message from the school then your child's bubble remains open. Please be aware there may also be other positive cases that we are informed about that will require your child to isolate. Again, we will let know as soon as possible.

I know you are aware that by participating in this testing our staff are once again contributing towards keeping our community safe and well. I am sure therefore that you will understand the importance of treating any information you receive with the utmost confidentiality.

I have also attached a letter from the local council regarding onsite provision for your information. I feel incredibly grateful to be a head at a school where parents are only using our provision when absolutely necessary and would simply ask you to re-evaluate your use of the on-site provision if your circumstances change.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Hughes,
Headteacher

