



ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH IN WALES (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 11th January 2022

Dear Parents,

A very happy new year to you all and I hope that you had a lovely Christmas and New Year period. I am aware that many of you have been affected by Covid-19 over Christmas and if this was the case I hope that you and your families are all feeling better and recovering well.

Following a slightly later start to the term than expected, it was lovely to have all of our children back yesterday, excitedly sharing their Christmas experiences.

Covid -19 current guidance

There have been many changes over the Christmas period, especially to testing and self-isolation advice, but many things remain the same.

- For us at school, we are still operating in class 'bubbles' which do not mix during the day. Staff are still wearing face coverings in communal areas of the school and in classes where social distancing is not possible.
- The school day for all classes has not changed, with the day starting at 8.55a.m. and ending at 3.15p.m. We do have a significant amount of children who arrive late in the mornings, which does disrupt the start of the day for staff and pupils. Children are registered from 8.55a.m. until 9.05a.m. and we ask that you arrive before the register begins please.
- We still require parents to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting your children please.

Testing and self isolation

- 1) If your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid-19, please do not send them to school and take them for a PCR test at a testing centre as soon as possible. We will need confirmation of a negative PCR test before your child returns to school.
- 2) If your child has tested positive on an LFD (Lateral Flow Device) they no longer need to have this confirmed by a PCR test. Instead, you must let us know about the positive test and report it on the Government website - [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result)
- 3) Once the test is reported, your child must self-isolate for 7 days and TTP will get in touch with you to confirm.
- 4) On day 6 and day 7, your child can take an LFD test (taken 24 hours apart). If both of these tests are clear, they can return to school on day 8 if they are feeling well enough to do so. If either the day 6 or 7 tests are positive, they must stay in isolation for the full 10 days.
- 5) If your child is counted as a close contact of someone in their household, in the community or at school, the guidance states that an LFD test should be taken for 7 consecutive days.
- 6) If the case is linked to school, close contacts will be sent an information letter to inform you of the close contact tracing and guidance on what to do next.
- 7) LFD tests are available at pharmacies, libraries and sometimes supermarkets. If you are unable to access LFD tests, please contact us at school and we can provide you with a box for the 7 day testing period.
- 8) Please note that pupils under the age of 5 are exempt from all of the testing outlined above.
- 9) Please keep in touch with us and keep us informed, so that we can work together to protect the health of all of our staff and children.

Class arrangements in case of emergency

It is always our intention to keep classes and the school open to all children at all times, however, as other schools have experienced, a large amount of staff being absent may lead to classes having to close.

If this happens, we will inform you as soon as possible by email and the children will move to remote learning using 'Teams' at home. In this situation, we would try and ensure that the period of blended learning is as short as possible and that the children return to school quickly.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Mr. Phillips