  



Tuesday, 15th December, 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you regarding procedures for potential notification of self-isolation of our children at St. Peter’s over the Christmas period.

Our school will remain open until 2.30pm on Friday, 18th December. Although it has been widely publicised in the media, we will NOT be closing school early for an INSET day on the final Friday of term, for the following reasons:

- Planning staff INSET days takes considerable time. Less than two weeks’ notice was simply not feasible for us to plan a quality training day for staff.

- In the long term, closing early at Christmas would affect another holiday.

- The option to close early would have been very short notice for parents, who would need to arrange childcare for this day.

At St. Peter’s we understand the wish of our families to have a safe and peaceful Christmas. School is in the difficult position of potentially needing to contact families if there is a positive case of Coronavirus in their child’s class bubble before the end of term. In the light of government guidance, we are asking parents to abide by the following procedures if their child displays symptoms of the virus and has a subsequent positive test:

* If your child develops symptoms from Monday, 21st December onwards, parents will not need to contact school, but should contact NHS track and trace instead. It is fine to contact school once we re-open on 04-01-21.
* If your child displays symptoms within 48 hours of the time they were last in school, then please arrange a test.
* If this test is positive for Covid-19, please contact school on: [head@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk). No other Emails will be monitored over the Christmas period.
* The above Email will be checked daily between 12.00 noon and 1.00pm, up to and including Thursday, 24th December.
* If school is informed of a pupil or staff member who has received a positive test, we will then contact the class bubble via text and Email.

It is the responsibility of the parent or carer to ensure that the child self-isolates for the period mentioned in the Email. I thank you in advance for your co-operation with this process, which we must run over the beginning of the Christmas holiday.

Please be aware that we will not be responding to Email queries during the holidays, and we will not be telephoning parents. The only communication will be via the [head@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk) Email, which we will use to inform parents of any positive cases of Covid-19 in their child’s class bubble.

All of us hope that we will not need to use the above procedures. We have been asked to put these procedures in place by the government.

I thank you most sincerely for your support this year. All of us at school wish our families a happy and peaceful Christmas. We hope to welcome all of our children back to school in January for a wonderful start to the new year together.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Ryan