

Outbreak letter for school – Advice to parents

Dear Parents,

As you are aware over the last week we have seen a further increase in the number of positive COVID cases across the school. We are monitoring the situation daily and in contact with Public Health and Dorset Council each day reporting our case numbers and following all the advice given.

26th November 2021

This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. As a school we have implemented additional outbreak control measures and these are being reviewed regularly. We have also made the decision that our current outbreak control measures will continue to be in place for the rest of this term, taking us into the Christmas holiday.

We appreciate that this means we have restrictions on how we celebrate Christmas at St George's with most the traditional school festive activities now cancelled.

The measures in place until Christmas include:

- <u>No</u> lunchtime or after school clubs for the rest of this term.
- Assemblies will continue to be held virtually over TEAMS.
- Hedgehogs and Squirrels Christmas Nativity will be filmed during the school day and then shared with all parents.
- The Christmas Carol concert has been cancelled in the Church.
- The PFTA planned Christmas Fayre has been cancelled look out for information of a virtual raffle.
- We will continue to limit the number of people on the school site with all visitors to school restricted to essential visitors only.
- We are asking that just one adult drops off and picks up and that people leave the site as quickly as possible at the end of the school day.
- All visitors, staff and parents asked to wear face coverings in school and at drop off and pick up time.
- Families are asked to consider taking daily LFT while awaiting PCR results
- Staff are testing daily.
- The children in Foxes are sitting in rows.
- Additional cleaning throughout the day of high contact areas.
- Each class is a "bubble" with no bubbles mixing throughout the day.
- Regular handwashing opportunities are planned throughout the day.

The children and staff who have tested positive are isolating and we are sending "get well" messages to them, along with virtual hugs and home learning. All adults and children who have been identified as contacts of a confirmed case have been given guidance from Public Health and have been advised to take a PCR test.

St George's School remains open and providing a face to face education as well as remote learning to those self-isolating. The staff are working incredibly hard during this challenging time and I thank them for all their hard work and support. Providing your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review.

We will make the run up to Christmas as exciting as we usually would just in a different way from usual – we are very good at St George's at being adaptable when faced with a challenge.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, you should organise for your child to be tested via the <u>NHS</u> <u>online portal</u> or by calling 119. Your household should isolate until you receive the test results giving the all clear.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Please continue to report all PCR test results to <u>office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk</u> as soon as you receive them.

We are asking that if your child is unwell you keep them at home and carry out a Covid test if possible.

Thank you for your support and understanding, I know that some of these restrictions are disappointing, but I hope that by continuing these additional measures with everyone working together, we can all be fit and well for Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Jill Farndale Headteacher