



St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School

Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

18th November 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

We have been made aware that 3 additional members of Year 6 have tested positive for COVID 19, taking the total to 7 within a 10 day period.

Due to a further increase of cases in Year 6 we have consulted with the Local Authority and have been advised the following:

Children in this year group are recommended to conduct daily lateral flow tests for 5 days. Parents can access home lateral flow kits on the following link: www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests.

Parents should report results on the government website (<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>), but there is no need for parents to report negative results to school.

Whilst it is a strong recommendation from Public Health to follow the guidance above, if parents choose not to, children will not be prohibited from attending school.

I would like to take time to reassure you that we have taken all necessary actions since hearing this information to keep all children at our school as safe as possible. After consultation with the local authority we are introducing some additional controls within certain parts of the school to reduce the chances of further spread of the virus. Our school risk assessment will be updated to reflect the changes in practice. For the next 2 weeks, we will introduce the following controls:

- Further enhanced cleaning
- Increased ventilation in Year 6
- Limit Year 6 contact with other year groups across the school
- Stop contact with other schools in inter-school sports

Following this period of time, we will review these additional measures.

In order to keep our school community safe and our children in school there are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

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Household testing

Eligible household members should do a rapid test twice a week (every 3 to 4 days) to check if you have the virus. If people test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading. Even if you're vaccinated, there's still a chance you can pass COVID-19 on, so you should keep getting tested regularly. To access home test kits, please see the following link below: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Symptoms of COVID 19

If a student develops COVID-19 symptoms they should take a PCR test and isolate. COVID-19 symptoms are:

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

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. You can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 119.

Yours sincerely,
Mr E Flood.
Headteacher.

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