

St George & St Martin Catholic Academy

(Member of The Newman Catholic Collegiate)

Boulton Street, Birches Head,

Stoke-on-Trent. ST1 2NQ.

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www.sgsmacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mrs. D. Farmer BA (Hons), MA, NPQH



'Growing, Learning and Loving; United in Play, Prayer and Peace'

Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Parents

I am sure you have seen in the press that Stoke-on-Trent has now been placed as a Tier 2 area of concern meaning that the risk to the area is High. During the half-term break I urge you to follow the new guidelines, which means;

- People must not meet with anybody outside their household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place,
- People must not meet in a group of more than 6 outside, including in a garden or other space; and
- People should aim to reduce the number of journeys they make where possible. If they need to travel, they should walk or cycle where possible, or plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport.

Due to this increased risk we have reviewed our risk assessment in school and as a result, while the school sits in an area of high risk we will be making some changes to our procedures.

From the first day back after half term (Tuesday 3rd November) the following apply;

- All parents (unless exempt) must wear face coverings on school grounds.
- All staff in school will wear face coverings when on the yard with parents.
- Staff will wear face coverings while moving around the school, face coverings will not be worn in any classrooms.
- All staff administering first aid will wear face coverings and visors.
- Pupils must only travel to school with members of their household or in their support bubble. This includes dropping off and collecting children. Other families cannot collect your child, unless they are a part of your childcare bubble. You can only form a childcare bubble with 1 other household.
- Parents are not allowed into school, including the school office unless absolutely necessary (please email or telephone any of your questions or enquiries).

All the above are in addition to the procedures we already have in place to mitigate the risk of spreading the virus. I should also like to take this opportunity to remind you that you must self-isolate if required to. Parents must NOT send pupils to school if they, or anyone who they live with displays any of the below symptoms;

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

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- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child does display any of these symptoms they **MUST** self-isolate and arrange to get a test and must not return to school unless their test returns as negative.

I should like to remind you that we all have a responsibility to keep our school safe. Due to this please remember to maintain social distancing at all times. Parents must not congregate before or after school. Please arrive on time and as soon as you have dropped off or collected your child we ask you to leave.

Finally, thank you for all your support this half term. Your support and understanding has been a tribute to our great home-school relationship.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Have a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd November.

Mrs D Farmer
Principal