



Learning through faith

**Address:** St. Mary's C.E. Primary Academy  
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**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear parents,

Thank you for your continued support in helping to protect our Academy community from COVID during this term. Whilst there have been cases within our community, the measures in place across our Academy have prevented them spreading within school and limited the impact on our day-to-day activities.

We have worked hard together this term to return to as much normality in school as possible. In the coming weeks we have some wonderful events planned, these include the Nativity – A King is Born, Christmas lunch, party and Carol Service. These events can only take place if COVID cases in school and the community do not rise and we feel it is safe for them to proceed.

Vaccinations have helped to reduce the infection rate and severity of symptoms in those with COVID. However, they do not completely remove the risk of contracting the virus or passing it on to others.

Now is not the time to be complacent as COVID is still widely circulating and could possibly get worse. The normality we have achieved will be lost if cases increase locally. You can help to prevent this by following the best practice advice that is still in place. This includes:

- Wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces. For example, on public transport.
- Washing our hands regularly and carrying hand sanitiser when we go out. Ensure your children are also doing this and understand the importance of good hand hygiene.
- Taking regular rapid tests, particularly before mixing with others
- Getting fully vaccinated against COVID – including the booster dose which is available to over 40s from next Monday, 22 November
- Keeping rooms well ventilated, particularly when spending time indoors with people we do not live with.



At St Mary's we believe that it is possible for ordinary people to choose to be extraordinary!

In addition to the above steps, please remember the following legal action you must take if you suspect you or your child have COVID.

- Your child should not attend school if they have symptoms of COVID (even if these are mild) and should **immediately isolate and arrange a PCR test**.
- Regardless of your vaccination status, if you have any symptoms of COVID (even mild), please do not come to the school site to drop off or collect your children. You should **immediately isolate and arrange a PCR test**.

As always, we appreciate your support in keeping our Academy family safe in the run up to Christmas and beyond.

Best wishes,

Pauline Nightingale  
Headteacher



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