



# St Matthew's

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of 

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4th January 2023

Dear Parents,

On Monday, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) issued additional guidance to prevent the transmission of illnesses during the winter months, including preventing the spread of Strep-A and Covid-19.

We all have a responsibility to take measures when we or our children become ill, to ensure that we do not pass on that illness to others, risking the health of family, friends and colleagues, as well as putting further pressure on our health services. The UKHSA has some practical advice to help with this:

- Firstly, and most importantly, **if your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has gone.**
- Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practise regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.
- Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.
- Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

For our Academy I would politely ask that:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever they do not come into school. I appreciate the challenges childcare can present in such instances, but spreading illness further within the school and staff will only cause longer term issues and risk partial or full closure of a class or year group.
- If you are unwell and bringing your child to school that you wear a face covering to prevent transmission.
- If you are unwell and due to attend a face to face meeting in school, that you notify us so that the meeting can be arranged.



Headteacher: Mark Mackley



Cidari Education Ltd Company Number: 08822760



I thank you in advance for considering the advice in this letter, and trust that you can see the benefit to us all in following this guidance to protect the health and well being of ourselves and those around us.

Yours sincerely,

M Mackley



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