



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Louise Bury B. Ed
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27th September 2021

Dear parents

'Strength doesn't come from what you can do. It comes from overcoming the things you once thought you couldn't.'

What a wonderful start we have had to our school year. The children in Years 4 and 5 have received their First Holy Communion. Huge thanks to all of the teachers involved in their preparation and to Father Amal and Deacon Kevin. Both masses were a testament to our dedication to the spiritual wellbeing of your children.

It is my duty to keep you as up to date as possible with regard to the ongoing challenges of COVID-19. As a school, we have continued to be cautious and to keep strict hygiene measures in place. Lunchtimes and break times continue to be staggered and classroom surfaces continue to be wiped down between lessons. We will be continuing with the staggered start and end to the school day and encourage you to socially distance where possible. The updated Risk Assessment is on the COVID Information page on the website. (The link is included in this letter).

There continues to be rising cases in schools. Any confirmed case is reported to the Local Outbreak Response Team (LORT) who give advice and guidance specific to each individual case. They help us to identify close contacts and provide us with the right documentation to send to parents as necessary. Please be assured that the ongoing safety of our school community remains paramount.

A few reminders for you...

- If your child shows any symptoms, you **MUST** arrange for them to have a PCR test and keep them at home until the result is received.
- Positive PCR test results means that your child remains at home for the required 10 days. Please inform school of any positive result.
- **The isolation period is now 10 days from the date of symptoms / test if no symptoms.**
- If a member of your family has a PCR test, your child can still come to school while they await the result but can I urge you to Lateral Flow Test your child daily and if at all concerned arrange a PCR. (They must remain at home then until the result).
- If a member of your family tests positive then you must arrange for a PCR for your child and monitor them closely. If the PCR is negative, they can come to school but I recommend that you lateral flow test them at least every couple of days.
- With regard to any positive cases in school; close contacts will be called (in line with guidance received from LORT) and parents will be asked to arrange a PCR for their child.

I include this link again for your reference: [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection.](#)





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Archdiocese of
Birmingham

I want to try to make it as clear as possible and I know that there are many confusing messages however if you are at all concerned then please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office. We are here to help.

All up to date information is on the [Coronavirus Information Page](#) of the school website. See link below.

<https://stjosephsworcester.co.uk/parents/coronavirus-information-updates>

This Friday you will receive our second newsletter of the academic year, always so well prepared by Mrs Hunt. It will include among other information, diary date reminders and also a new addition regarding online safety. This is a national training programme that we have joined, led by Mr Bowring who is our online safety officer in school and a much-valued member of our safeguarding team. If you do have any concerns or questions regarding the safety of your children online then don't hesitate to contact him either via the school office or using the Year 5 email address.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. I look forward to seeing many of you on my regular zoom meetings. The next one is scheduled for this Friday 1st October 2021 at the slightly later time of 10am; the invitation will be sent out today. I would like to discuss during the zoom what would be the most suitable time for these meetings for you. If you are unable to attend due to time then please do send an email to the school office suggesting a time to suit you. I obviously cannot please everyone but will endeavour to try!

Yours in faith and partnership

Mrs Louise Bury

Headteacher

