

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



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Dear Parents,

Every school has to report every case of COVID-19 to the local Public Health Team who monitor schools. Schools have to follow all their advice and guidance, including when we can inform parents. On Monday 29th November we had enough cases in school to warrant a letter to all parents which they sent to us to send out. This was sent out on Monday 29th November to all parents via the website and text message.

As you may be aware, we have a rising number of COVID cases in Year 3. We have been in regular contact with the Public Health team. The new protocols, when cases arise in school or classes, is to seek DFE and Public Health guidance and report each and every individual case. We then receive guidance specific to our school and have to follow this along with all other national guidance. School has been strictly adhering to all guidance however the number of cases are increasing. Previous measures of closing bubbles and notifying parents to collect their child (because there is a case in their class) are no longer part of the guidance we have received. School and parents do not get involved in contact tracing. This is done through a specialist team.

To ensure the school can try and limit the spread further, we have arranged for a deep clean to be undertaken over the weekend but this will mean the school will have to close on Monday 6th December 2021 for it to be fully completed successfully. While we haven't been asked to do this yet, we feel it is imperative for our school community to try and stop the infection in its tracks. I am very aware that Christmas will be here very soon and want to do everything that we can so that families' special time together isn't disrupted due to isolation and ill health.

While testing your child is voluntary I do ask parents to test their child if they show any signs and symptoms. We have had quite a few positive cases that have actually started with stomach pains and not the usual temperature and cough. This will enable us, as a school, to keep our infections at bay.

Rest assured, I am in constant contact with the local Public Health team and we have all their recommendations fully in place.

Online learning will be available on Monday 6th December and school will reopen on Tuesday 7th December 2021.

Yours sincerely

S. Fraser

Mrs S Fraser
Executive Head Teacher

