

‘Living, Loving, Learning’

St Elizabeth’s Catholic Primary School

Webster Street, Litherland, L21 8JH

Tel: 0151 922 5752

www.st-elizabethsprimary.co.uk

admin@stelizabethscps.org.uk



Headteacher: Mr Liam Daniels BA (QTS) Geog (Hons) NPQH

2nd November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope that you had a relaxing half term break.

As you are aware, the Government is implementing another national lockdown starting from this Thursday 5th November. In his press release, the Prime Minister stated that schools should remain open, as being away from school for a large period of time can be damaging to a child's education. We are therefore open as usual and expect that your child should be here each day, unless they or someone in the household shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.

You will know from previous messages that our school is split into 'Bubbles'. These bubbles can contain up to 120 children, so if one person tests positive, there is the potential to lose lots of children. With this in mind, we have re-visited our risk assessments and have made the bubbles much smaller and are ensuring that there is even less opportunity for children in different year groups to mix. We are now having some Junior classes eat their lunch in their classrooms so that we further limit the number of people in the hall and have further staggered the lunches in the Infants. We have also given each year group a designated space on the playground, so when there are two year groups on the yard, we will keep them apart.

When the children are dropped off at the gate in the morning, this is working well, as adults just drop the children and then go, so as to avoid congestion. What I would ask is that at the end of the day, please can you not arrive too early on the yard. We do have some groups standing close to each other and talking, which is obviously not what we want. Try to keep away from other adults and if someone does stand too close to you, move away, just as you would in a supermarket or shop. We will not let your child go without you, so if the line to collect is congested, stand back and when clear, we will see you and send you your child.

One final point is to explain what happens when we are notified of a positive case in school. When this happens, we need to send out two texts as below:

The first will be to close contacts of the positive person, **explaining that they need to self-isolate.**

The second will be to the whole school, explaining that there has been a positive case. **This is for information only- it does not mean they have to self-isolate unless they have been told to in a previous text.**

PTO

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Please read the text clearly, right to the end. Please also click on the link, or paste it into your internet browser. This will take you to the full letter and advice on the website.

For any children who we ask to isolate that are entitled to Free School Meals, we will send a link which you will need to click and follow the steps to receive a voucher. The value of the voucher is based on the cost of a school meal for each day they are required to isolate.

We will also provide work for children who are isolating. This may be in paper form, electronic, or a mixture of both. Please register with our school Twitter account to keep up to date and access the work- **stelizcps**

We do not know what the halt-term will bring, but we know that it is unlikely to be like any other we have had leading to Christmas. It is a worrying time for all of us, but by working together to ensure the safety of all at school, we can make this term as enjoyable and as ‘normal’ as possible. We hope to see all children in school, but if you need to discuss any individual circumstances, please get in touch with us.

Stay safe everyone.



Mr L Daniels
Headteacher

