



St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust
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St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

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CEO: Katy Kent



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Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, there have been a small number of confirmed positive COVID cases amongst the school community. I would just like to reassure you that at all times we continue to follow National Guidance and seek additional guidance for the DfE where necessary.

Due to a small increase in cases which may be connected, in addition to increased ventilation and enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures (which we had already implemented), the DfE have asked us to introduce the extra control measure of temporarily suspending assemblies/whole key stage worship. Therefore, for the immediate future, all worship and assemblies will be class based. Unfortunately, this also means that for the time being parents will not be able to attend celebration assembly. You will be notified via Dojo of any certificates or awards your child receives.

If your child has a continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell, we ask that you book a PCR test immediately and keep your child at home until they receive a negative result. Likewise, if your child has a positive result on a lateral flow test, please obtain a PCR test straight away. These are the only circumstances under which your child should self-isolate. Even if a member of your household has a positive COVID result, any children with negative PCR results should still come to school. The best place for your children to be, is at school. **Please could we ask that if your child has a positive LFT or PCR test that you inform the school as soon as possible.** If your child is well in themselves, please inform us so that we can arrange for your child to have work to complete whilst they are isolating. Staff continue to take twice weekly LFTs, and I would encourage households to do this where possible too.

Due to the requirement for extra ventilation, and the deteriorating weather, school is a little colder than usual. We would recommend that children wear additional layers to school - please don't worry if extra jumpers etc. are not school uniform. We would much rather that children are warm enough.

If we would be asked by the DfE to take further actions to protect the school community, I would share this advice with you immediately, but in the meantime, we have been told to continue taking the precautions that we are already taking with the additional measure of no collective assemblies.

You may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace if your child is identified as a close contact. As a school, we may also advise children we believe could be close contacts of confirmed cases to take a PCR test as a precaution. If this is the case but your child does not have symptoms of COVID-19, they should continue to attend school whilst you await the result.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Your children continue to be a true credit to you and their behaviour, resilience and attitudes are truly commendable.

Yours sincerely

Rachael Kilmister
Headteacher