



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

31st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a peaceful Christmas and that you and your families are all safe and well. I am sure that you have all been following the news closely and that you will know that yesterday the Government announced more policy changes. You will know that some areas of Dorset have moved to Tier 3 whilst BCP has moved to Tier 4. Tier 4 is a stay at home tier and I have attached a poster with all the instructions on.

For many households this will mean most will be asked to work from and to stay at home most of the time. Parents and Carers will be expected to stay local and not to travel to areas with lower tiers. The exception will be for education and childcare drop off and pick up.

As you will note from the poster Clinically Extremely Vulnerable staff and pupils are encouraged to stay at home as they were in November and this will affect some of the staff in school. I myself will be working from home as will a number of other staff. We have made sure that there will be staff in school to teach and support the children.

St Mary's will be open on Monday to all year groups and will continue to work under our strict risk assessment in order to ensure that both staff and children are kept as safe as possible. The Government expectations state that it is vital for all children to attend school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. This means the usual rules on school attendance apply including the parents' duty to ensure their child attends regularly.

In order for this to work we thank you for abiding by the safety rules below:

- **BASC** -If your child is booked in for before school or after school club please ensure that you arrive at the main gate at the correct time:
Early Birds Breakfast Club
Session 1 – From 7:30-7:40am
Session 2 - From 8:00-8:10am
Night Owls After School Club
Session 1 – 4:25-4:35pm
Session 2 – 5:25- 5:35pm
- The start of the school day - please ensure that your child is on time to ensure that they enter school safely with their Bubble:
FS2/Year 3/Year 6 – 8:35 – 8:45am
Year 2/Year 4 – 8:45- 8:55am
Year 1/Year 5 – 8:55 – 9:05am
- The end of the school day - please ensure that you are on time to collect your child
FS2/Year 3/Year 6 – 3:00pm – 3:10pm
Year 2/Year 4 – 3:10 – 3:20pm

“Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ”

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Telephone: (01202) 676207

Website: www.st-marys.poole.sch.uk

E-mail: office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk

Year 1/Year 5 – 3:20 – 3:30pm

- Please do not stand in groups of more than two outside of the school gates. Please note the poster states - ***no household mixing, aside from support bubbles and two people meeting in public outdoor spaces***

If you or your child test positive, please email the school office on the day you receive the positive result, with details of when you or your child may have contracted the virus and whether you have been in contact with anyone from school. We will be checking the emails every day between now and our return on Monday - office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk

We are in close contact with our senior leaders within Plymouth CAST, Public Health Dorset and Julia Coleman, Service Manager School & Provider Standards & Support 0-19 Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP). They are very good at sharing the latest information with us and if there are any new changes we will share these with you as soon as possible.

I have checked and revised our school COVID-19 Risk Assessment and control measures and you will find a copy on the school's website on Monday. I have been in contact with all staff to revisit all control measures. As you will understand by reading this letter **it is imperative that all control measures are adhered to by all members of the school community** in order to mitigate the risk.

We are in a very dangerous period of the pandemic; it is everyone's responsibility to play her/his part in keeping everyone as safe as possible. I know that I can rely on you, our parents and carers, to help us with this.

May I wish you all best wishes for the New Year and I hope that with the vaccine we will all be able to see an improvement in 2021.

Yours faithfully,



Helen Armstrong
Headteacher



space



If you're stood up cover up