**St Anne (Stanley) C of E School**

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27th August, 2020

Dear St. Anne’s families,

As we start our new school year you will notice there are many changes in how we are operating as a school. We are following government guidance and putting in several controls to minimise the risk of transmission of Covid-19. You will find a full copy of our Covid-19 risk assessment on the school website along with our school guidance re-opening plan. We will continue to regularly review our risk assessments as guidance from the government is updated.

Whilst the government have indicated that the prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased and the NHS Test and Trace system is up and running, it is now vitally important that our whole school community work together to protect each other from the risk of Covid-19.

We have re-organised our school to keep children in clear and consistent class ‘bubbles’. This will help us limit the number of contacts children have with different people whilst still delivering an effective curriculum. We have considered the age of our children and their curriculum needs as well as the logistics of our school site in order to determine the size of our ‘bubbles’. Every school is required to do this, and each school will determine the best way for their own school community.

Since the lockdown started in March, each of us will have had very different experiences and we ask that everyone in our school community is respectful of each other and their individual feelings. When you are dropping or collecting your child from school, we ask that you respect other people and comply with the 2m social distancing guidance. If it is possible, please walk your child to school to help reduce congestion outside the school gate.

**How to Prevent COVID-19 Spreading**

There are things you and your child/ren can do to help reduce the risk to you and anyone you live with becoming ill with COVID-19:

* Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds.
* Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
* Wash your hands before you leave home and as soon as you get home.
* Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
* Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.
* In school we will use the ‘Catch it, Bin it, Kill it’ phrase to remind our children.

**Symptoms of COVID-19**

The most *common* symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a recent onset of:

* *A new continuous cough* ***and/or***
* *A high temperature* ***and/or***
* *A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)*

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

It is extremely important that outside school we all follow the government guidance around Covid-19, particularly the Stay at Home guidance below. All parents/carers must ensure that they ***do*** ***not*** bring a child into school if they display ***any*** Covid-19 symptoms.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

If your child is absent from school due to Covid-19 symptoms please ensure that you inform the school immediately. While your child is absent from school, we will provide work so they can continue with their studies during this period.

If your child presents with Covid-19 symptoms whilst attending school, we will take your child to a safe area in school and contact you immediately to collect them. Please make sure that your emergency contact details are up to date and correct at all times.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>or by telephoning 111.

***It is vitally important that anyone who presents with Covid-19 symptoms gets tested as soon as possible.***

If someone from within school is confirmed with Covid-19 we will get in touch with the parents and carers of any children who have been in close contact with this person. This is likely to be children from their class or ‘bubble’ or if they have been in close contact through other groups such as afterschool or breakfast club. These children will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days. Other members of your household **do not** need to self-isolate, unless your child also develops symptoms. Full details and instructions for Parents/Carers will be provided at the time. We will also send information to our wider school community as a reminder to all our families of the actions that can be taken to help reduce the spread of the virus.

St Anne (Stanley) C of E Primary School, Parents/Carers and our pupils all have an extremely important role to play in ensuring that our children and school community remain safe.

I would like to remind all Parents/Carers of their responsibility to adhere to the strict 2m social distancing guidelines when dropping and collecting their children from school and also in ensuring pupils from different classes do not mix in the playground or outside the school gates.

**Reminders before returning to school**.

Children will need to bring in their own water bottle.

Children to attend school dressed in their school tracksuit on the day they have P.E.

Packed Lunches will now be kept with your child’s personal belongings.

Individual pencil cases with all equipment required will be provided by the school and kept in school.

On entry to school children will be required to use the hand sanitisers at each entrance.

Staggered times are in place for children to start and finish school – please see the School Re-opening Plan Guidance for details. If you have children in different year groups, please bring all children at the earliest starting times.

All monies will be contactless – details will follow of how you can pay for school lunch, breakfast and/or after school club.

Breakfast & Afternoon Clubs will recommence Monday 7th September

The school minibus will not be available each morning.

Visitors to the school will be by appointment only.

Please be assured that we will do everything possible to keep our children, staff, parents and the wider community safe. We look forward to having our wonderful children return – things might look a little differently at first as we have had to make changes, but the whole school team are committed to ensuring our children are safe, happy and enjoying their learning.

Thank you for your continued support and patience – we can’t wait to see you all again.

Kindest regards,

Mrs J Simons

Mrs J Simons

Head teacher