St Anne (Stanley) CE Primary & Nursery School

**Prescot Road**

**Liverpool**

**L13 3BT**

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**Tel : 0151 228 1506**

**Fax : 0151 228 8581**

**Email:** [**Stanley-ao@st-annesstanley.liverpool.sch.uk**](mailto:Stanley-ao@st-annesstanley.liverpool.sch.uk)

20th November, 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

Over recent days we have been made aware of several children in our school community who have tested positive for COVID 19.

I would like to take time to reassure you that we have taken all necessary actions since hearing this information to keep all children at our school as safe as possible. The school have consulted with the local authority and we are introducing some additional controls within certain parts of the school to reduce the chances of further spread of the virus. Our school risk assessment will be updated to reflect the changes in practice. **For the next 2 weeks, we will introduce the following controls**:

|  |
| --- |
| Hand Sanitiser at entrances to all rooms and one way system in place |
| Max ventilation within class rooms and corridors |
| Testing in staff  to be promoted strongly |
| Face Coverings to be worn in all communal areas for adults when social distancing cannot take place |
| **Further** Enhanced cleaning, **fogging at the end of the day** |
| Introduction of Bubbles for specific class outbreaks – **currently your child’s class – Y3SW** |
| Risk assess activities: increasing risk of spray such as singing – **no singing in the class bubble of Y3SW** |
| Limit visits or risk assess visits to school |
| Collective Worship/Assemblies to take place with no more than 4 classes – **Y3SW will have collective worship in class** |
| Separate Breaks for each year group – **Y3SW will have break at different times to the rest of the school** |
| **Specific class bubble Y3SW – to have lunch in class** |
| **Staggered breaks, start and finish times to school day 5 minutes earlier for Y3SW** |
| **Breakfast and After School Club – children will be kept in class bubbles for Y3SW** |

*Due to a further increase of cases in class* ***Y3SW*** *we have consulted with the Local Authority and have been advised the following:*

***Children in this class are recommended conduct daily lateral flow tests for 5 day****s.  Parents can access home lateral flow kits on the following link:*[*www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests*](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)*.****If children test positive using a lateral flow test, then it is strongly recommended that a further PCR test is undertaken****.*

***If your child tests positive for Covid 19 using a PCR test, we would recommend that all members of the family conduct daily lateral flow tests for 5 days****.*

*Parents should report results on the government website (*[*https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result*](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)*), but there is no need for parents to report negative results to school.*

*Whilst it is a strong recommendation from Public Health to follow the guidance above, if parents choose not to, children will not be prohibited from attending school.*

Following this period of time, we will review these additional measures.

Currently, the most common strain of virus in the UK is called the Delta variant and we have seen a steep rise in COVID-19 cases recently. Evidence suggests the Delta variant spreads more easily than previous strains. It is important that we are vigilant and follow public health messages to stop the spread of the virus

**Household testing**

Eligible household members should do a rapid test twice a week (every 3 to 4 days) to check if you have the virus. If people test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading. Even if you’re vaccinated, there’s still a chance you can pass COVID-19 on, so you should keep getting tested regularly. To access home test kits, please see the following link below: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

**How to stop COVID-19 spreading**

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting 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 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

**Further Information**

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

**Symptoms of COVID 19**

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

* new continuous cough and/or
* 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.

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 phoning 119.

Thank you all for your continued support in helping keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Simons

Headteacher