



All Saints Primary School

Weekly Parent Email

Dear All,

Firstly, Happy New Year. I do hope that you and your families have enjoyed a safe and peaceful Christmas.

Secondly, I understand that, like myself, many of you are alarmed by the seemingly sudden rise in coronavirus cases in the area. Please be assured that I completely understand why some of you are cautious about the return to school. However, I felt it wise to pass on the stance of Dorset Council and the Department for Education. I am aware that the Prime Minister is making a statement at 8pm tonight which may change this.

All Saints will be open (as expected) tomorrow and, as per government advice, primary school pupils should be in school. The exception to this are those pupils who are isolating due to a positive test or contact with a positive test and those whole family units that have been told to shield; if this is the case you would have received a letter.

I have spoken to Dorset Council today who have informed me that any pupil not coming into school due to parental concern about local coronavirus rates will be recorded as unauthorised absence. This may lead to fines. If any child misses 10 or more days due to this, they will be classed as 'Children Missing in Education' and will be contacted directly by Dorset Council. Unfortunately, I have no say or jurisdiction over this at all.

Dorset County have also said that, unless pupils are isolating due to a positive test or contact with a positive test, we should not be setting work for those pupils staying at home. I can have some say over this and, as such, if you are keeping your child off school please let us know ASAP so we can arrange provision. Staff will have work available as early as tomorrow morning for those not in school.

Please rest assured that we - as a school - have revised all of our Covid 19 procedures and have taken steps to tighten our 'Covid security' with measures such as daily bacterial fogging in all areas of the school. The whole school has also been deep-cleaned and 'fogged' during the Christmas period.

I can only apologise for the tone of this email and I would like to assure you that we are here for you; please do contact us with your concerns, worries and troubles which I am sure are shared by many of us. Hopefully, as a whole school community, we can work together to reduce any risks and provide the best possible environment for our children.

Take care,

Nigel