



Saltford
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School
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Headteacher: Dawn Sage
Co-Chairs of Governors: Megan Jackson and Richard Rowland

Thursday 17th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

In order to comply with the requirement for schools to assist in contact tracing during the first part of the Christmas break, and to give families a means to communicate Covid-19 positive test results for their children when the school office is closed, please use the 'Report a positive Covid test' button on the home page of the school website or go directly to the page here: www.saltfordschool.org.uk/report-a-positive-covid-test. This form will collect all the information we need, particularly contact details, key dates and close school contacts so we can contact Public Health. This form will come straight through to me to action.

If we do have a positive case in a child there will be two letters sent via parent mail and a text to alert you: one will go to the whole school and a more specific one will go to the class or year group where the child with the positive case is based – it will not name the child. Please be aware Public Health is very busy, as you can imagine, and it may take some time for them to give me their decision. It may be that, in the meantime, a parent chooses to use social media to alert contacts – however I will be in touch as soon as I can with the official outcome.

Knowing the date of the onset of symptoms is the key to breaking chains of transmission. For this reason, we will trace close contacts of staff and pupils whose symptoms began within 48 hours of their last time in school. For positive tests where the case was asymptomatic, the 48-hour period before the test is considered the infectious period. **We therefore ask you to inform us of positive test results received up until 24th December where symptoms began in the 48-hour period since school attendance.**

The 'Report a positive test result' button will be removed from the school website at midday on Christmas Eve and will be placed back on the website at 8 am on Monday 4th January 2021. This is because there is no requirement for your child to self-isolate if a child from school goes on to develop Covid after the 24th December – unless you have had contact with their family outside school. If a parent tried to access the button after midday on Christmas Eve a message will be sent advising them that they do not need to report a positive case to the school at this time.

If your child is required to self-isolate into the next term, please ring us on Monday 4th January (this is an inset day) to inform us of the last date of self-isolation so we can support home-learning once term starts on Tuesday 5th January.

The following information outlines actions to take on dates throughout the holiday as well as some guidance from our local Public Health Protection Team. Please note government advice may well change over the course of the next week:

Parent information on COVID prevention and what to do if you or your child develops symptoms over the holiday:

The Government has announced that there will be a period between the 23rd and 27th of December in which 3 households can meet up. The guidance on what this means can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-andfamily/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>

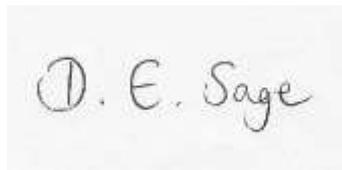
We know that the easiest way for COVID to spread is when people meet up indoors and we encourage you to consider the risk, particularly to older or vulnerable members of your family at this time. Increasing ventilation, keeping physical distance, hand hygiene, keeping to your 3 household bubble (this may be adjusted by the government) and, importantly, if you are unwell, not meeting with others may help reduce this risk.

Unfortunately, due to the relaxation of restrictions we expect to see an increase in COVID infections after Christmas and, together, we want to look at how to safely return to school in January. To keep your child and other children safe it is important that children do not come to school at the beginning of term if they have any of the Covid symptoms or are waiting for the outcome of a test. This includes if a member of the household is waiting for the outcome of a test.

My apologies in advance if I do need to contact you to ask your child to self-isolate.

Have a lovely Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you back safely on Tuesday 5th January.

Yours sincerely

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. E. Sage". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mrs D Sage
Headteacher