

# St Nicholas Priory Primary School

#### COVID-19

### **Update for Parents/Carers**

#### Dear parents/carers

At St Nicholas Priory we appreciate what a difficult time this must be for you and your family and also how there is a considerable amount of information in the media, some of which must be confusing and very worrying. Can I take this opportunity to once again state that our core purpose is to keep everyone in our school community as safe as possible, which is why the governors and senior leadership team have taken the decision to gradually reintroduce the children back into school only when we think it is appropriate and safe to do so. We are also aware that school will look and feel extremely different for children and their happiness and wellbeing also need to be taken into consideration. If you choose to keep your child at home then support for home learning will continue.

We would like to keep parents fully informed as to the robust plan we have in place to lessen the risk of Covid-19 being transmitted. Whatever we put in place, we will do so to ensure the safety of children, staff and yourselves. At this point we need to stay alert and have very strict controls. One way to do this is to be very clear about expectations and to ensure that everyone works together. We ask for your support as these vital and necessary measures we are put in place.

## What we are doing to protect and support pupils and staff

We have done a thorough risk assessment of what we need to do.

We have ordered safety equipment to be worn by staff when school is available for more pupils

We have made plans for as much outdoor learning to take place as possible and purchased resources to aid us

The Senior leadership team and Governors have been planning extensively based on the information

We have redesigned the school classrooms so that we can implement social distancing as much as possible and also introduced new signs and systems in school to help everyone avoid contact as much as possible.

It is essential that children and staff will have to wash hands more regularly and we will help them to do that by implementing NHS guidance where everyone should wash their hands on arrival and at regular intervals during the school day.



We have additional cleaning measures in place which will be closely monitored

We will restrict the number of visitors coming into school, including yourselves

We, like you, will encourage everyone to avoid touching their face as much as possible

Senior staff have carefully planned staffing to ensure that children are well looked after when they return to school and children will be placed in groups to access their learning

Universal hygiene measures will be adhered to by everyone connected to the school. In addition to the hand washing already outlined above, we have purchased more hand sanitisers. We want everyone to follow the Catch it, Kill it, Bin it procedures by covering the mouth with a tissue or sleeve when sneezing and putting used tissues in the bin straightaway.

Our plans also include phased return to school which you have already received information about and we will keep you updated when we know more.



What we would like you to do



Encourage your child to talk to a member of staff immediately if they feel ill at school, particularly if they show the symptoms of the virus like a cough and high temperature. We will keep them separate from other children and ask you to collect your child as soon as possible.

Follow the guidance from Public Health England on isolating if your child is diagnosed with the Virus. If your child does have a persistent cough or temperature, they must not come into school and you must follow the self isolation guidelines outlined by Public Health England.

Please DO NOT send your child to school if they are feeling unwell. Let the school know as soon as possible that they will not be attending.

Please note the time when your child is expected in school and also when they need picking up, More details will follow on this, as will the entrance to use.

The school must keep everyone safe and therefore if your child is behaving in such a way that endangers other members of the school community, we will ask you to collect them immediately. We know this will be a rare occurrence, but it is really important that we have your full support on this.

Please do not enter the school building UNLESS you have been specifically asked by a member of staff.

Try and encourage your child to follow the hygiene measures outlined above whilst they are at home. Between us, we will hopefully ensure the children will keep themselves safe as well.

Please make sure you follow the social distancing guidelines when you bring your child to school and when picking them up.



These are incredibly difficult times, but we are committed to ensuring you as safe a return as possible, when it does occur. We have received tremendous support from you already and for that we are so grateful. We will of course, keep you fully informed as things develop. In the meantime, keep safe and look after yourselves and your family

Kind regards and thank you,

Maria Grimmer

