

St Martin's C of E Primary School

Lower Church Lane, Tipton
West Midlands, DY4 7PG

Acting Headteacher: Mrs K Lees

Tel: 0121 557 1543

Website: www.st-martins.sandwell.sch.uk

Email: office@st-martins.sandwell.sch.uk



Caring, Learning
and Smiling Together

Dear Parents and Carers,

Return to School Arrangements

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well following the Summer break. We would like to update you on the arrangements for the return to school on Monday, for you and your children.

As you are aware, attendance is mandatory for all school aged children, this means that it is your legal duty as a parent or carer to send your child to school. This also includes children who are clinically extremely vulnerable unless advised not to do so by your Doctor, as such we will continue to follow our attendance policy and procedures.

The Government has stated that Covid-19 will become a virus that we learn to live with and are keen on reducing disruptions to the education of our children and young people. This is important to us as a school, however, we will continue to adopt some of the previous measures that were in place. The entrances and exits that we used before the Summer holidays will remain the same. Parents may wear a face mask on school grounds if they wish. Good hygiene routines will continue to be of high priority in all areas of school, ie frequent sanitising of hands, tables and door handles etc.

On returning to school, your child is no longer required to be taught in a 'bubble', as in line with Government guidelines. However, class bubbles may be reintroduced for a short period if there is a positive case in a class, in order to prevent further spread. As a school, we will continue where possible to ensure limited contact with children in other year groups.

Assemblies will commence during the first half-term, however, we will continue to ventilate the hall and classrooms. We will provide further information about the arrangements for events in school such as Harvest and Christmas etc, as to whether or not we will be able to invite you to join us.

In accordance with government guidelines, children and young people under the age of 18 and adults who are fully vaccinated, are no longer required to self-isolate if they are in contact with a positive Covid case, unless they develop symptoms. From 19th July, NHS Test and Trace now work with an individual who has tested positive and/or their parents to identify close contacts in all schools. This is likely to be a small number of people. Test and Trace will advise contacts to take a PCR test, (this is not the lateral flow home testing kits), this will also be the advice from school. This means that a 'bubble' or class will no longer need to close following a positive case in school.



Please continue to support our school and do not send your child to school if you suspect that they may have Covid or test positive.

If a child tests positive and has a sibling at St Martin's, school policy for the Autumn term is that we require the sibling to take a PCR test, if this is negative, the sibling may return to school.

Please be reassured that we will continue to review all measures that are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your children and our staff. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Below is a link with the most up to date guidance, for your information.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/08/24/back-to-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

We look forward to seeing you on your return to school and we thank you for your support and co-operation for the new academic year.

Kind regards

Mrs K Lees

Mrs K Lees
Acting Head Teacher