



Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear St John & St James' families,

Happy New Year. I hope you have all been keeping well and managed to have a restful break over the festive period. We are all looking forward to welcoming you all back on **Wednesday 5th January**.

With the rise of Covid - 19 cases, we have reviewed our school risk assessment, in line with government guidance, in order to prevent the spread of the virus as much as we possibly can. We'd like to reassure parents and carers that we have taken a number of steps to ensure that we are able to offer a safe approach to your child/ren returning.

The start of the term may present some challenges for us, however our aim is to provide all the children a consistent and high quality education. There may be possibilities of high staff absences at some points and we will do our best to cover absences. This may mean there might be some changes to your child's timetable and afterschool clubs may be combined or taught by another member of staff. We will do everything we can to maintain face to face teaching.

Preventative Measures in place:

As a school we will be continuing our good **hygiene practices**. This means your child will be washing or sanitising hands on arrival to school and regularly throughout the day. We will be continuing our **cleaning regimes** throughout the day and ensuring all rooms are **well ventilated**. Each room has a CO2 monitor which indicates when additional ventilation may be needed.

All visitors and parents are to wear a **face mask** at all times when entering the school grounds. Staff will be wearing face coverings in communal areas within the school where social distancing isn't possible.

All staff in school will be **testing twice a week** using lateral flow tests and I would ask all parents to test regularly also to help stop the spread of Covid-19.

We will be **reducing the number of visitors** to the school for the spring term. This means there will be no class assemblies for the term.

On arrival and pick up year groups are to use the following gates. Parents will be asked to say goodbye to your child/ren at the gates at drop and will be allowed onto school grounds to pick up your child/ren. All parents are expected to wear a face mask when on school premise. We would ask to promote social distancing when around other parents. It is really important that your child arrives at school on time ready to start the school day at **8.55am**.



	Arrival	Pick up
Nursery	Nursery gate on the Church pathway	Nursery gate on the Church pathway
Reception, year 1 and year 2	KS1 gate	KS1 playground waiting at classroom doors
Year 3 & year 4	KS1 carpark gate	Amphitheatre
Year 5 & year 6	KS1 carpark gate	KS2 playground

Coronavirus

Procedures if Your Child Tests Positive or Develops Symptoms

Symptoms of Omicron are manifesting very differently to Delta with more cold-like symptoms - sneezing and sore throat. If your child develops any of these symptoms or a new and continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell they **must not come into school and take a PCR test**. They will need to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (Whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)

Procedures for Children Attending School

- If your child develops a new and continuous cough, has a sore throat, sneezing a lot, has a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell then we will contact you and ask you to collect them immediately and to begin isolation.
- We will advise you to follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) infection which includes arranging to have a PCR test as soon as possible to see if they have Covid - 19.

If your child or someone in the immediate family tests positive can you please inform the school office.

If you have any further questions, please call the school office and someone will be more than happy to answer your questions.

Thank you all for your cooperation in these matters.

With best wishes,

Jo Smith

Headteacher