



# St Mary's and St John's CE School

*"With God, all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)*

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*Wisdom Service Hope*

Principal: Martin Serrão BA, MEd (Camb)

26<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. At the end of an exceptionally challenging term I wanted to once again thank you all for your support, blessings and words of encouragement which have warmed our hearts and lifted our spirits. Our values have been clearly articulated through your actions.

You will be aware that we have experienced challenging numbers of positive Covid results in spite of stringent cleaning regimes and social distancing measures. Public Health England, Barnet Public Health and the London Coronavirus Response Centre have all supported the measures we have taken. Frustratingly, we are very much a reflection of the rise in cases in London.

Public Health England have advised us to keep our classes as small as possible, therefore, we will continue with the current timetable for years 7-10. Our programme of live lessons has been positively received and will continue to support our children. We are exploring ways of embedding this strategy as part of our curriculum when we return to something closer to normal.

As we reach half term, the guidance has again been revised with the following important points:

- If a child presents in school with symptoms, the child is to be isolated and sent home for 10 days but their school contacts do not need to isolate at that point.
- Those who have received a subsequent negative test result who are well, have not had a high temperature or diarrhea or vomiting for 48 hours, can return to school.
- To avoid sending home whole bubbles at a time, we will identify only those students deemed to be close contacts and ask those students to self-isolate for 14 days.

Ref: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

In order to further reduce risk, we will:

- Require all of our staff and students to wear face coverings when in communal areas of the school (i.e. corridors rather than classrooms)
- Continue to encourage hand sanitisation on arrival and throughout the school day
- Reduce the size of our classes as much as possible

Ref: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

Please keep your child at home if they are displaying any of the Covid symptoms and if they or any of the household are awaiting test results. Please supply your child with a separate face mask (just for use in school) and hand sanitiser and encourage them to follow the coronavirus guidance at all times to safeguard the school community.

Ref: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

I would like to take this opportunity to sign post you to our new Primary and Secondary Newsletters which contains further information about our children's learning experience.

Once again, I am heartened by your overwhelming support and pray for a restful break for you and your families this half term.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Serrão  
Principal