

Headteacher: Mr M Boland

11th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Friday, 12th February 2021 – End of Term

I am writing to remind you know that at St Aidan's, **we will finish our term at normal time on Friday, 12th February as planned. The school and the Nursery will be closed from Monday, 15th February to Friday, 19th February 2021.**

The school will re-open for Nursery children and key worker/vulnerable children **only on Monday, 22nd February 2021.**

We have however been requested by the Department for Education to share the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays with you.

Communication of a positive case

- **Schools will **only** need to know of a positive test result for your child in the following two situations **ONLY**:**
 - a) **Your child was in school for any period within the two school days (48 hours) before the school broke up and they developed symptoms** (a new persistent cough; a high temperature or a loss of smell and taste) **OR**
 - b) **Your child was in school for any period within the two school days (48 hours) before the school broke up and they returned a positive COVID-19 test from one of the Liverpool City Regions mass asymptomatic testing sites and has received a confirmatory PCR test**
- **To inform school in the cases above **ONLY** then e-mail helpathome@staidanscatholicprimaryschool.com.**
- In cases of emergency, when you are unable to follow the school's procedures, and strictly only to report possible school contact in the 48 hour window mentioned above you can contact 0151 443 4712 or email COVID19.SPOC@knowsley.gov.uk
This number is not a helpline and cannot be used for any other reason or for advice.

If you require any other advice over the holiday period or for cases that ***do not*** overlap the period of your child being in school and the school breaking up please contact <https://www.knowsleynews.co.uk/coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

- The council has also set up a Community Support and Volunteer Line. It is helping Knowsley residents who need additional support during the outbreak and coordinating offers of help for those who are wanting to volunteer their time or services to help those in need in their local community.

Public Health Self Isolation Guidance:

Key summary points in relation to the isolation guidance:

1. Isolation periods will take the day contact occurred as Day 0 of the isolation period. You must remain in isolation until Day 11. For example, contact on 12th February 2021 = Day 0; last day of self-isolation is 22nd February 2021 = Day 10; able to resume normal activities on 23rd February 2021 = Day 11.

Testing Advice for anyone without Covid-19 symptoms:

SMART testing makes use of Lateral Flow Devices, more commonly known as rapid testing, and the tests should provide a result in around 30 minutes. By testing those who are not displaying symptoms, we can develop a better understanding of the spread of the virus in the community and also identify more people who are carrying the virus so that they can self-isolate (called case finding). Taking part in the mass testing pilot is completely voluntary. All tests are self-administered, and the process only takes a few minutes.

Where can I get tested

If you don't have any symptoms, you do not need to make an appointment. Simply go to your nearest test site listed below between 9am and 6pm.

All test centres will operate nine hours a day, seven days a week, Monday to Friday from 9am until 6pm and 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday. Opening times will be reviewed to ensure we are meeting demand.

The test centres in Knowsley are located at:

- Knowsley Leisure and Culture Park, Longview Lane, Huyton
- Volair Kirkby, Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby
- Volair Halewood, Baileys Lane, Halewood

How do the tests work?

Lateral Flow Tests are self-administered and very easy to use. You simply take a swab of the back of your throat and nose before putting the swab into a small vial. A fluid is then added to the vial and returns a result in around 30 minutes – although it can sometimes take a bit longer.

What happens if I get a positive result?

If your test comes back positive you should self-isolate immediately. You must also contact everyone in your household or support bubble as they will need to isolate too.

You need to self-isolate for 10 days from when you developed symptoms or from the date you had your test. Others in your household or support bubble will also need to self-isolate for 10 days (again from the date you developed symptoms, or you had your test). Once isolating, you can book a confirmatory test online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or [by calling 119](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus).

What happens if my test is negative?

It is important to remember that **your result only covers the moment in time when you took the test.** You are encouraged to do regular (weekly) tests. In addition, there is also the possibility of you being given an incorrect negative result.

Therefore, you must continue to follow COVID-19 guidance such as maintaining social distancing (that's a 2m distance between you and others), regularly washing your hands and wearing a face covering where advised.

If you have any question or queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

Yours faithfully

M Boland (Mr)

Headteacher