

**St Aidan's Catholic Primary School**  
Adswood Road, Huyton. L36 7XR  
Tel: 0151 477 8370  
Email: [staidan@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:staidan@knowsley.gov.uk)



**Headteacher: Mr M Boland**

25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Dear Parent/Carer**

Many thanks for your support during these challenging times and I am so pleased that the children have come back to school with such a sensible and enthusiastic attitude. Now that we are back into the routine, the break over Easter will give us all the chance to get ready for a busy Summer term. We expect there to be a lot of work as well as fun during the term as we try to make sure that the time away from school does not have a lasting impact on any of our children or their families.

I am grateful that Fr Anton was able to join us – at an appropriate distance of course- to mark the end of the term in final preparations for Easter.

Keeping safe remains our key priority and we offer some general advice for the holiday period.

**Reminder about when and where to get tested**

Regular testing for COVID-19 is essential in order to detect people who have the virus – with or without symptoms. Importantly, they can then self-isolate and stop passing on the virus to other people.

Remember if you have symptoms or if you, anyone in your household or support bubble tests positive for COVID-19, you must self-isolate for 10 days to prevent the further spread of the virus.

Over the last few months, there have been different testing options introduced, so here's our guide to when and where to get tested depending on your circumstances.

**If you have COVID symptoms**

If you have any of the COVID symptoms (high temperature, new or persistent cough or a loss of taste or smell), stay at home and book a test through [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or ring 119. There are 3 testing sites in Knowsley for people displaying symptoms (in Huyton, Kirkby and Stockbridge Village) and you will be offered the first available appointment at a test centre. Please note, you need an appointment to attend these testing sites.

**If you don't have symptoms and can't work from home**

There are 7 SMART test sites operating across the Borough offering testing (through Lateral Flow Tests). You don't need to make an appointment, but please only visit these sites if you do not display any symptoms. For the locations and opening times, [click here](#).

Remember a positive test means you have COVID-19 and you (and others in your household, support bubble and close contacts) need to self-isolate for 10 days.

**If you live or work with children**

If your household includes school children or people who work with school children, you can collect rapid (lateral) tests from Huyton, Kirkby and Stockbridge Village to carry out regular testing at home. These sites are open from 1pm until 8pm 7 days per week – no appointment is needed but please only attend during the specified times.

You can find your nearest site here: <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

### **Secondary school testing**

From 8 March when all pupils started to return to the classroom, testing was offered to secondary school pupils. The first three tests would be undertaken on the school premises and then your school will issue home testing kits for you to continue with regular testing at home (twice weekly).

### **Positive result from a test carried out at home**

If you receive a positive test result from a test you have carried out at home, you are required to book a confirmatory test through [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or ring 119.

This is not required if you receive a positive test from either the SMART testing site, a test conducted on school premises or a test carried out at the symptomatic testing sites.

### **Importance of testing**

COVID-19 is easily transmitted from person to person and many people can have COVID-19 without having any symptoms. That's why regular testing is essential – it will identify people who have the virus so that they can self-isolate and stop passing it on to others.

### **Activities during the Easter Break**

Whilst food vouchers have been issued over this period and will provide valuable support to eligible pupils in the borough there is also additional support available for the forthcoming Easter break during the period from 6th – 9th April 2021.

This support is being funded by the DfE in the form of the Holiday Activities and Food programme, in Knowsley this programme is being co-ordinated via One Knowsley. Between the 6th – 9th April there are over 1000 funded places across the borough for benefits related Free School Meals pupils to access that will be carried out in a Covid Secure manner.

Details of how to book on will be published via Knowsley News and Social Media Channels on Monday 29 March 2021. Going forwards the Holiday Activities and Food Grant will be one of the main pillars of support for pupils eligible for a Free School Meal over the Summer and Christmas holidays this year and more details will be published after Easter.

I take this opportunity again to thank the children, their families, the staff and governors at St Aidan's for their commitment, support and determination to overcome the difficulties in our way. I am sure you will join me in looking forward to a Summer term that will be both productive and rewarding.

Enjoy the break.

**M Boland (Mr)**

Headteacher

