



St John & St James Church of England Primary School

Grove Street, Edmonton, London N18 2TL
Tel: 020 8807 2578

Email: office@stjohnandjames.enfield.sch.uk
Website: www.stjohnandjames.enfield.sch.uk



Friday 2nd October 2020

Questions and Answers re: positive case in class 6JB 2.10.2020

Dear St John and St James Community,

I know that today's news may have caused uncertainty to many of you; please rest assured that we are closely following the guidance of the DfE and Public Health England (PHE) **and acted quickly in response to news of a confirmed case.**

I hope that this letter answers some of your questions but if you wish to ask any other question please email office@stjohnandjames.enfield.sch.uk. Thank you all for your co operation, patience and understanding today.

How many cases of Coronavirus have been confirmed?

Only one case has been **confirmed**. An assessment was made by PHE (based on information provided by us); PHE advised that we needed to close one class. Parents of those pupils have been contacted and advised accordingly.

Have the classrooms been cleaned?

We know that the virus can possibly hang around on surfaces for up to 72 hours so the classroom, toilets and regular touch points will be cleaned when it is safe. This is in addition to the thorough cleaning that already happens in school several times each day.

Why isn't the school closing?

At this stage we only have a single case and we have been able to identify all the close contacts very quickly and to respond as advised. The advice is to open the school as planned with all the systems of control in place such as hand washing, good respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning and protected groups/bubbles.

What happens about siblings of pupils?

As per government guidance, siblings of quarantining pupils are expected to attend school **UNLESS they have or develop symptoms.**

How do I know if I came into contact with the infected person?

As we have pupils organised into class "bubbles" (or year group bubbles) we know who came into contact with the infected person and have notified those who need to self isolate as a precaution. It is vital that parents and carers on site socially distance as much as possible.

If we have been in contact with a parent/child that has been asked to self-isolate by the school, are we also required to self-isolate and then track those we've subsequently had contact with also?

No, the advice to self-isolate from PHE is only for those who had **direct contact.**



Headteacher: Mrs P Cuncarr B.A (Hons) NPQH
LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD



Will it be better to keep the children home a bit longer until this episode is over?

Due to the systems in place we have been able to identify those who came into contact with the infected individual, so we are expecting this to be contained and not develop into an outbreak. We will of course remain vigilant and keep you informed.

If the people that have been asked to self isolate get tested and it comes back negative, are they allowed back into school before the 14 days is up?

No, the advice is that they are still required to self-isolate for the full 14 days.

Can you confirm more details of the infected case?

As you might expect I am not able to release any further details of the case in respect to their privacy. As explained above we have contacted relevant staff, families and individuals. If the case was in regards to you/your child you would want as much privacy as possible. Conversations on social media, about who may be affected, are unhelpful and (can be) unkind.

I want to keep my child at home, can I do this?

We can understand your concerns and we wouldn't open the school if we didn't feel that the situation was contained. You will be aware that the government has announced that it is mandatory that all pupils should return to school and continue their education.

We don't want to issue fines to parents because we have good relationships with our families and hope that through discussion we can encourage pupils back to school. However, it is in the guidance from the government that all pupils should now attend school. If a parent decides to home school their child then they should inform me (Mrs Cuncarr) in writing and they will be removed from the school roll.

What can we learn from this incident? Anything to be done differently by school going forward or to consider for us as individuals?

We feel that everything that can be done is being done, whilst trying to run a school with some degree of normality. The challenge for everyone is following the guidelines OUTSIDE of school and trying to avoid bringing the virus into the school too.

I hope that this letter has been useful and may have answered the questions that you have?

Best wishes



Patsy Cuncarr
Headteacher