



St Mary's Catholic First School
Lucetta Lane, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 2DD
Tel: 01305 262258
Fax: 01305 257101



E-mail: office@stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk
Website: www.stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



11th December 2020

Dear Parents

You may have heard on national news this week that the DfE gave schools a training day 'offer' for Friday 18th December. This came very late from Government and I feel would be disruptive for many of you, causing childcare issues, etc.; it does not benefit the school staff or you as families. I have spoken with our local mini-pyramid and our Academy. We will not be closing on Friday 18th December, not least because we have a lot of activities planned for the children.

From Saturday 19th December we are required by Government to notify close contact families of any Covid-19 positive tests which happen within 48 hours of finishing for Christmas.

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (Covid-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by the NHS Test & Trace.

If, however, your child develops symptoms within 48 hours since being in school (by end of Sunday 20th December) and has a positive test, please email the school office on office@stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk as this email will be monitored during this period and we can then identify close contacts to communicate with.

Please check your email once per day with this in mind. I am sure you understand that my staff need a holiday and time with their families, so this monitoring and emailing will be done by myself (we are also required to contact Public Health). Email daily checks at home are important as it would take me a long time to telephone those who could be involved. Thank you for taking on this responsibility.



After the 20th December you will not need to let us know, you will need to follow NHS advice.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

P. Fearn

Mrs Paula Fearn
Head Teacher