



ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

Executive Head: Mrs Liz Thomas-Friend, Head of School: Mrs Jacqui Spinks,
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13th September 2021

Important information regarding Covid-19 cases in school

As many of you will be aware, we have now had a few confirmed cases of Covid-19 in school. We have already informed families in Seagulls and Pearls Classes who are the only classes directly affected at this time. We are aware that you may find the rising number of cases concerning, but please rest assured that the school is following all current guidance and has all measures in place to try to reduce the spread of the virus.

This morning we have consulted with Public Health England (PHE), The Kent Health Protection Team and the Local Authority to inform them of our situation and explain the current procedures that we have in place within the school. It has been reassuring to know that, every recommendation for next steps from these advisory bodies is already in place in school. These include:

- Children remaining in Year group bubbles
- No whole school gatherings
- Limited mixing across the school (at lunchtimes/playtimes)
- Good ventilation
- Additional cleaning of surfaces and resources
- Increased handwashing/sanitizing

We would also like to reassure you that many of our children have only had mild symptoms and have recovered from their illness very quickly. Our staff have also remained well and free from the virus. Symptoms in our children have varied and many of the children who have tested positive for the virus, have just presented with a normal cold or other mild childhood illness. At this current time, we ask that you show extra vigilance around this if your child is unwell in any way.

If anyone in your household has symptoms, or tests positive on a lateral flow test, you must book a full PCR test. These can be booked using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you would like to check if your child or anyone in your family has the virus, but they are not displaying symptoms, families are able to request lateral flow tests for free from your local pharmacy. These are easy to administer and you are able to see the result of these within thirty minutes at home.



St Alphege Values



Koinonia



Forgiveness



Trust



Kindness



Love



Joy

**Artsmark
Platinum Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Guidance on closing class bubbles changed on the 16th August meaning that the School and Nursery will remain open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

We appreciate that you may find this information concerning. Please rest assured, that we will continue to ensure all safety measures are in place to reduce the risks of the virus spreading to others in the school.

If you have any further questions or any specific concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Spinks or Mrs Thomas-Friend in the first instance.

With kind regards,
Jacqui Spinks and Liz Thomas-Friend

Useful links:

- For most people, Covid-19 will be a mild illness. If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person#i-think-i-have-had-contact-with-someone-who-has-tested-positive-for-covid-19-but-i-have-not-been-notified-and-advised-to-self-isolate-what-should-i-do>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#exempt>
- Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>