Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

24th March 2021

Dear parent or carer

Thank you for staying at home!

We would like to thank you for everything you have done to make it possible for our school to reopen. By staying at home and following the rules, we have been able to significantly reduce the number of Covid cases across the county.

We're writing now because we need your ongoing support to ensure our children can keep learning. Whilst the rate of infection in our county's schools has fallen, Covid hasn't gone away, and we are still seeing a steady flow of cases being reported.

We must keep doing all we can to help keep Covid out of **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School** and to make sure that we reach each milestone in the Government's roadmap to a more normal way of life.

Here is a reminder of what we can all do to reduce the chance of catching and spreading Covid:



On your way to school, and at the school gates, stay two metres from everyone else and wear a mask. **Minimise contact with others,** by heading straight home after school drop off and pick up. This is the best thing we can all do to help stop Covid from spreading.



If your child uses public transport to get to school, then they must wear a face covering. Sharing a car with people not in your household isn't recommended.



Get a rapid regular Covid test for people without symptoms. You can get a twice-weekly rapid test if you:

- Still have to leave home for work or to care for others;
- Are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of school staff or a pupil
- Are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a child at nursery or pre-school.
- Are in an occupation associated with schools such as out of school clubs or you have to visit a school or pre-school setting for your work

To find out how to access a rapid, regular test kit, visit:
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/testing

Regular rapid tests are for people without symptoms only.
If you have Covid symptoms you should follow the advice below.



When someone at home gets any Covid symptoms, stay at home and get tested. Everyone in your household has to stay at home, **until you get test results.** This is called self-isolation and means you must not go to work, or school, to the shops, the park or be around other people.



Keep your child at home if you have been told to. If your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid, they have to stay at home to self-isolate for 10 days, even if they get a test and get a negative result – because the virus can still appear. By opening a window or door and letting fresh air into your home, you can help prevent the spread of the virus



Get vaccinated. When it's your turn to get vaccinated you will be invited by your GP. To find out more about the Gloucestershire vaccination programme, visit: covid19.glos.nhs.uk/vaccinations. Continue to follow the steps above even if you have been vaccinated while we learn more about the impact it is having.

For further advice and information around Covid, getting tested and the support available, visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19

If you need help staying at home, ask friends and neighbours. If you don't have anyone to support you, contact the Gloucestershire Community Help Hub. If you don't have access to the internet ask your school to help or call 01452 583519.

Thank you for following the rules and helping to keep our children in school!

Yours Sincerely

Clare Howells
Headteacher

Sarah Scott
Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health