



# Sandford St. Martin's

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, we are currently dealing with multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school. We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health Dorset and Dorset Council. This letter is to give you more information on the current situation and provide details on how we are proceeding in school at the end of this half term.

Due to cases being '3 or more' in any single class, or '5 in a year group' - and this being true in more than one year group schoolwide (Year 6, Year 5, Lilac (Yr 3) Beech (Yr 2) and Saplings) I have decided to re-instate 'bubble protocol' as we did in September 2020. This is an additional protective measure to allow face to face teaching to continue. Year 6 have been 'bubbled' from today in the light of new cases emerging. Our current case 'count' is between 14-20 school wide.

Practically this means no mixing of year groups, single staffing models where possible and allocated toilets, play spaces and lunchrooms for the children. **It does also mean that we will not be offering lunchtime and after school clubs for the last 2 days of this half term (Wed 20<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Oct).** The school day remains on the same timings (Saplings, Yr1, Yr 2 8:35/8:45-3:05 and KS2 8:45/8:55-3:15)

All close contacts of the confirmed cases have been identified and given the relevant advice. Unless you have been specifically notified that your child is a close contact, you do not need to take any further action at this stage.

Crucially, the school remains open and providing your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep you informed should anything change. Any closure of the school or year groups moving to remote learning is instigated by public health, unless I feel there is a health and safety issue with regard to any staff shortages. We are not in that situation.

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, you should organise for your child to be tested via the NHS online portal or by calling 119.



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P R I M A R Y   S C H O O L

## **Symptoms of COVID 19.**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. *In some children sickness, stomach issues and sore throats seem to be fairly common indicators too.*

I am keeping this situation under constant review. I thank you for your trust and support in these unprecedented times.

With my best wishes  
Mr Beveridge