



## **St Nicholas C.E Primary Academy**

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Head Teacher: Mrs F Booth

*Proud member of the Infinity Academies Trust*

*"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:14-16*



Infinity Academies Trust

Ready to learn, Prepared to flourish.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your loved ones have had an enjoyable Christmas despite the continuing uncertainty around the coronavirus pandemic.

It was a delight to welcome the children back into school yesterday and we now look forward to all the exciting learning opportunities that 2022 will bring.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education (DfE) has released updated guidance on how to reduce the risk of transmission of the coronavirus in schools. This is particularly important with the current prevalence of the new Omicron variant of the virus.

There are no specific changes within the guidance for primary schools. However, in our school, we are continuing to take some extra measures to limit the spread of the virus, which include:

- Continuing to keep classrooms well-ventilated. All of our classrooms have windows and external doors and we are now using CO<sub>2</sub> monitors in every classroom to track how well ventilated they are.
- Although the DfE guidance no longer recommends grouping the children in consistent groups ("bubbles") we are conscious about reducing contact between different year groups, particularly when indoors.
- Our staff are wearing face coverings in all communal areas, but not when teaching.
- We are continuing with all of the hygiene, ventilation and cleaning routines we have established.
- Staff are continuing to self-test twice per week using LFD tests.

We are reducing the number of visitors into the school and would therefore encourage you to contact us by phone 01205 363 210 or email [STNenquiries@infinityacademies.co.uk](mailto:STNenquiries@infinityacademies.co.uk) rather than coming into school in-person.

Thankfully, we have started the new term with just one member of our staff who has tested positive for Covid recently. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them a speedy recovery. It's clear that our biggest potential problem in the coming weeks could be excessive staff absence. The DfE have encouraged schools to be flexible so that they can stay open. This might include combining classes and asking staff to work in different parts of the school. However, there may be occasions when it is not sensible or safe to do this. At this point, we would need to make a decision about whether the children can be in school. If not, then we may ask classes or year groups of children to learn from home for a short period of time by accessing remote education via the Class Pages of our school website which can be found here: <https://www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk/class-pages-2/>.

This would be an absolute last resort but I do think it's important for you to be prepared for this possibility in the coming weeks.

Whilst this new variant is presenting additional challenges for everyone I strongly believe that we should be positive and optimistic. As a school community we have shown resilience in the face of everything that has been thrown at us throughout the pandemic and we will continue to do so.

In other words, we simply need to .... Keeeep shining!

## *A Prayer for Light*

"Bring your light and restoring presence to the dark places in our lives. Bring your hope to hearts that feel defeated. Bring your love and compassion to those in pain."

helloHOPE

As always if there is anything you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to get in touch so that we can find a way through, together.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs F. Booth  
Head Teacher.

