



Dear Parents and Carers

Updates on Covid-19 Safety Measures

Thank you for supporting our procedures to reduce risk in our community. This is now even more important as the transmission of the virus is increasing, including in our area.

Our aim continues to be:

- to keep everyone as safe as possible
- to keep our children in school
- to maintain our broad curriculum, including using specialist teachers.

We are constantly reviewing our processes to check that they are working and think about any further measures we need to take, in order to minimise risk for all.

Drop off and Pick Up Procedures

One of the areas which we have been discussing in the last week are the drop off and pick up procedures. There are two main areas of difficulty:

1. The difficulties of social distancing at both entrances at drop-off and pick-up.
2. The level of pedestrian congestion at the A316 entrance.

These are the measures we have decided to take:

- As space is so limited at both gates, and this compromises the ability for all to social distance, we recommend that adults wear a **mask** at both drop-off and pick-up in order to keep everyone in the community as safe as possible. We understand that some members of the community are exempt from wearing masks.
- From Tuesday 15th September, we ask all adults to:
 - At **drop-off** line up (socially distanced) against the fences with your child
 - At **pick-up** line up (socially distanced) against the fences to wait for your childYou will meet the teacher at the gate, where they will greet or dismiss each child one by one.
- This will inevitably slow arrival and dismissal down by a few minutes. Please bear with us as this is a safety measure in order to relieve congestion on the pavement for the safety of children, adults, cyclists and pedestrians.
- We kindly remind you that there should only be one adult per child at drop-off and pick-up.
- Please be on time for drop-off and pick-up to support this new procedure.

Illness: Keeping Everyone Safe to Stop the Spread of Covid-19

We understand the difficulties of telling apart the difference between the symptoms of a cold and Covid-19.

Please remember, you should book a Covid-19 test if your child has:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste - this means they've noticed that they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child does not have symptoms of Covid -19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they or members of your household do not need to self-isolate. Your child can attend school if fit to do so.

If in any doubt at all, please contact your GP for advice.

If your child gets better, but is still isolating due to awaiting test results, please contact your class teacher on the year group email to ask for some work to do from home. Your child's class teacher will provide some work as soon as practicably possible.

We will continue to monitor and adapt our safety procedures at St Stephen's. Thank you for your continued patience and support.

St Stephen's Team.