



St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust
Sedgley Road
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Wolverhampton
West Midlands
WV4 5LG

St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

Headteacher: Rachael Kilmister

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November 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have all had a lovely half term break and look forward to seeing the children back in school tomorrow, Tuesday 3rd November.

As you will know, the country is entering a second national lockdown from Thursday. School will remain open to all children who are well enough and who are not required to self-isolate during this period. We are all very pleased that we will remain open and strongly believe that it is very important for children to be at school. However, as infection rates continue to rise, both nationally, but also locally, it is more important than ever that we do everything we can to make school as safe as possible for all members of our community; pupils, families and staff. This is particularly true in an environment where social distancing is often not possible and the use of PPE not practical for much of the day. You have a huge role in helping us keep everyone safe, particularly those who are considered clinically vulnerable (of which there are both pupils and staff as well as wider family members).

With this in mind, I would like to remind you of the following and ask that these are strictly adhered to:

1. Please do not arrive early to drop off in the morning and collect children on time. Siblings can still be dropped off at the same time. Other than this, if you are unable to drop off or collect at the allocated time, please make alternative childcare arrangements.
2. Children should not be bringing anything into school that is not needed for educational or care purposes (such as coats and their lunch). Before the break, we had noticed many children had started bringing in Lego cards, which they were trying to swap. These should be left at home and children should not be trying to swap any of their belongings.
3. Please follow social distancing guidelines when dropping off/collecting pupils. If you are unable to keep socially distanced, we would highly encourage the use of face coverings.
4. Please keep a 2m distance from members of staff at all times. If you need to give a message where you are unable to keep a 2m distance, please wear a face covering. If you need to be closer than 1m at any time, please call the school for a private conversation.
5. Please ensure that if any members of your household have any of the symptoms of coronavirus, all members stay at home until either a negative test outcome or the end of any isolation period.

These measures not only help protect the school community, it also means that in the event of a positive case, we can limit the number of children and staff who have to isolate.

In addition to these measures, we have taken some additional precautions whilst rates continue to increase.



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Unfortunately, we have taken the difficult decision to cancel all after school clubs until at least January. This is to limit the frequency of unnecessary and avoidable contact between children and staff (Breakfast and after school club will remain open for childcare purposes). When clubs resume, we will ensure that children who had secured a place for an after school activity are able to take part in these.

It is likely that staff will be wearing face coverings in the morning and at the end of the day, as this is a time of increased contact.

We ask all our families adhere to the national laws/guidelines at this time. I hope that this way we can do everything we can to protect children, staff and families so that we are all able to stay safe.

We fully appreciate the wonderful level of support we have received from our families since March, both with adhering to our safety measures and in your understanding of the decisions we are taking. This is a challenging time for everyone and we feel very blessed to work in such a supportive community. Please remember, that if you are experiencing any difficulties (particularly if you are having to isolate and are struggling to access wider support), do contact us, as there may be practical ways in which we can support you.

Sending our best wishes to all our families for your good health. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Rachael Kilmister', written in black ink on a white background.

Rachael Kilmister
Headteacher