



Federation of Pinvin C of E First School and St Nicholas C of E Middle School

Main Street, Pinvin, Worcestershire WR10 2ER

Federation Head teacher: **Mrs Sandra Jennings**

Together, we inspire, discover and achieve

Dear parents and carers,

I was pleased to be able to let you all know on Friday that we have been able to remove the Y5 bubble in Middle School and that our plans for Christmas were going ahead.

However, you will no doubt have heard that the Prime Minister has re-introduced some of the restrictions and regulations relating to COVID-19. **This has implications for both schools in the Federation. We also have low but slowly increasing numbers of confirmed cases in First School.** Therefore, as a preventative measure to try and limit spread and to keep all members of our community safe in the run up to Christmas, we have had to put further measures in place. These measures will be for two weeks in the first instance, as follows:

With immediate effect:

- Children at PFS will be put back in bubbles (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4)
- PFS parents please collect Reception children from the front door and all other First School children from zoned areas of the playground
- PFS and SNMS parents to wear masks when dropping and collecting children
- Y4 trip tomorrow (Tuesday) is cancelled
- We are limiting visitors to both school sites
- Wrap around care will be open to children from all year groups, with children sitting in year group bubbles
- Children from PFS will be unable to attend after school or lunchtime clubs, apart from Y3/4 football club which is outside
- All children in Y7 to wear masks in communal areas within school and on school transport, in accordance with new national regulations
- We will continue with the step of not holding whole-school assemblies or singing

Sadly, this has meant that we have also had to reconsider our Christmas events:

- SNMS Enterprise stalls to go ahead on Friday 3rd December, within school time, **children only**
- PFS Enterprise stalls to be **postponed** until the last week of term – further details to follow if we are able to re-assess the situation
- PFS Nativity to be **postponed** until the last week of term – again, details to follow if we are able to re-assess the situation
- SNMS Carol Concert (outside) to be **postponed** as above to the last week of term

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We appreciate that these changes and postponements may be upsetting and disruptive. We tried really hard to ensure that the decisions we took last week about Christmas would not have to be changed but rising numbers have, sadly, meant that we could not continue as planned. We will, of course, continue to review this closely and keep parents informed. In terms of cases in First School, we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide you with advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that, for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

Both schools remain open and, **providing your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal.** We will keep this under review. We do recommend your child has daily lateral flow tests if they are not showing any symptoms. Please contact the school office if you would like to be provided with a supply of these tests. Please keep us informed if your child does start to show symptoms, and of any positive lateral flow results. **Children who show symptoms of COVID-19 should take a PCR test.**

Worcestershire Public Health undertake a robust risk assessment with the school, taking into account the protective measures the school has put in place. The aim of the risk assessment is to ensure preventative measures are put in place, whilst minimising the educational impact on pupils.

Symptoms

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

- a new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature (37.8 or higher) and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19.

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze

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- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

I am very appreciative of the support parents and carers have continued to show both schools, especially when we have had to make last-minute and difficult changes.

I apologise for another long letter and further changes to plans.

Kind regards,



Mrs Henrick
Acting Headteacher