

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary

Heys Street
Thornton-Cleveleys
FY5 – 4HL
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Headteacher – Mr P Eaton

Monday 30th August 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

I hope everyone has had a good summer break.

You may be aware of the significant changes to the requirements regarding self-isolating and the lifting of all restrictions in and out of school. However, we intend to keep the following safety measures due to the continuing high numbers of cases in our area and across the UK.

- To keep classes separate to start with, and continue with the current break and lunch arrangements
- To strongly insist on thorough hand hygiene
- To keep every window open, and use the HEPA air filters in all classes and offices
- To keep the one way system around school
- To keep the one way system for parents coming in and out of the school premises
- To recommend parents, grandparents and siblings from other settings wear face coverings in the playground
- To wear face masks indoors: everyone must wear a mask in the office area to protect the staff.
- Children attending BASC are recommended to wear masks indoors but it is not required
- Assemblies and other mixed class gatherings will be avoided, and Zoom assemblies will take place

Regarding cases, we remain vigilant to symptoms and Test and Trace are now in control of choosing who are close contacts, but close contacts do not need to self-isolate if they are fully vaccinated or under 18- (this is the policy of Lancashire Local Authority and the DFE). A PCR test is recommended for close contacts, including family members, and they can continue to attend school or work while awaiting the result. If more than 3 children in one class test positive within 10 days, we then contact Public Health England for further advice. Sending home classes or groups of children is not expected or advised, or likely to be recommended. (We previously followed the Local Authority and DFE advice of only sending home close contacts, not whole classes or shutting the entire school).

These are significant changes as we move towards outbreak management.

We need to approach the new term with confidence yet caution, we want to provide more opportunities this school year to all children.

In other news: planning permission is delaying the start of the field renovation, which has been frustrating over the last six weeks of numerous emails and reports needed to keep the project alive. Hopefully we may be closer now.

School is open to all children from Wednesday 1st September 2021, and we are looking forward to working with the children again!

Yours sincerely

Mr P. Eaton
Headteacher