

St Matthew's Primary School  
Wenlock Street  
Luton  
LU2 0NJ



10th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your patience, understanding and support during the last week. Working together we have been able to safely reopen the school and have overcome many challenges. Although there will be many more to come, we couldn't have done this without you. I have only been Acting Headteacher of St Matthew's since 1st March 2020 but am incredibly proud to be leading our dedicated and caring staff. They really are an amazing team, who work together striving for the best for our school community. I would like to publicly thank each and every staff member.

I am very happy to report that pupils appear to have adapted quickly to the alterations we have had to make. They have shown confidence, flexibility and real enjoyment to be back. Our school feels alive again!

As you know we are currently operating in class bubbles of up to 30 children. The Government guidance does allow us to have larger year group bubbles, which for St Matthew's could be bubbles of up to 120 children. Many schools have already chosen to work in larger groups than we have. Over the coming weeks I will be reviewing this arrangement, whilst adhering to local and national guidance. It may be that we move to year group bubbles for the use of the dining hall and outside spaces. At the current time we are remaining in our class bubbles of 30. I will of course inform parents and carers of any changes.

**Please can I remind parents and carers to keep children at home if they or another member of the household are exhibiting any of the symptoms below (taken from the NHS website)**

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your 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 you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you, your child or any member of your household have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

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Acting Deputy Headteachers: Mr Adam Bell & Mr Jon Parker  
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*The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safeguarding of children.*





If we receive a positive test result from a child or a member of staff, parents of the bubble involved will be notified. Pupils and adults in the bubble will need to isolate for 14 days. We will liaise with Public Health England and inform anyone who needs to isolate promptly.

Please be aware that we do NOT test children at school. It is a parent's responsibility to arrange a test.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Victoria Rayner  
(Acting Headteacher)

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