



**“We put Christ at the Centre of our Lives.”**



**Newsletter Date:  
Friday 28th January, 2022**

# St. Philip Neri with St. Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Covid Restrictions

Many thanks to those who've adhered to the various restrictions that have been in place since the onset of the omicron variant. Yesterday, the Government replaced Plan B restrictions with Plan A. Full details can be found [here](#), but effectively for schools it means we will no longer request that you wear face coverings while on the school site.



We continue to experience Covid-19 cases across the school. Where classes are temporarily placed in Bubbles, we thank you for your support in conducting lateral flow tests to assist us with curbing the spread of the virus.

I'm hopeful that we'll soon be in a position to begin to welcome parents back into school but am awaiting further guidance on this from the DfE and the Trust. You will, of course, be updated once we know more.

## Miss Nicola Sokala

On behalf of the staff and Governors of our school, congratulations to Nicola Sokala, our Office Manager, who has successfully secured a new job elsewhere. I'm sure she won't mind me saying but her new role is rather a significant promotion — and so thoroughly deserved as she's fabulous. Well done, Nicola! Thank you for all that you have done for our school. We have advertised for an Office Manager to replace Miss Sokala, who leaves us at the end of next month.



Attendance for last week : 95.9%	
FS1am	98.8%
FS1pm	44.4%
FS1 30hrs	93.3%
FS2KW	89.9%
FS2TG	99.2%
Y1RB	98.0%
Y1CG	92.6%
Y2DK	94.0%
Y2RT	94.5%
Y3HA	98.1%
Y3AN	97.4%
Y4NH	97.1%
Y4 SM	92.2%
Y5SC	98.2%
Y5VD	95.5%
Y6GM	99.3%
Y6NS	96.4%

## NSPCC Number Day

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day next week, on Friday 4 February. Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it.



To mark the event, we'll hold a fun day of Maths activities, puzzles and problems. We will also invite the children to *Dress up for Digits*, where they can wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, netball shirt or even a onesie!). If you don't have any clothing with numbers on, don't worry...be creative. You could wear a badge with a number on, or maybe a cap or wristband. To help raise money for the NSPCC, it would be wonderful if you could make a small, voluntary donation. Thank you for your support with this.

## Covid 19: Important Information

Presently, we have confirmed positive Covid-19 cases in school. If your child is unwell, and displays any of the following symptoms, please arrange for them to be tested. Either a Lateral Flow Test or PCR. The common symptoms are: continuous cough, high temperature and a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell. Please also note the following updated rules at the end of an isolation period.

### *Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19*

The 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has **been reduced to 5 days** in certain circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

- Individuals may now take **Lateral Flow (LFD)** tests on **Day 5 and Day 6** of their self-isolation period.
- Those who receive **two negative test results** are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation.
- **The first test** must be taken **no earlier than Day 5** of the self-isolation period and **tests must be taken 24 hours apart**. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion.
- **If both lateral flow tests are negative**, then pupils can return to school from **Day 6**. (If you take the test at 7:00am each day – 24hrs apart – then you can come to school at 9:00am on Day 6 as you will have two negative tests. If you take it later in the day, then you would have to attend on the next day or from the time you have a second negative result after 24 hrs have passed. **Please note that anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.**
- People who test positive with a lateral flow test **do not** need to order a follow-up PCR test if they do not have symptoms. Anyone who has symptoms will still need to take a PCR test regardless, and anyone who tests positive with any test must self-isolate.

### *Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19*

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

- Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts.
- If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing.
- If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

## Word of the Week

The Word of the Week next week is **Care** to mark the Presentation of our Lord. This word will form the basis of our acts of collective worship throughout the week.

## Year Group Mass

Year 2 will celebrate Mass next week in church. Unfortunately, parents and parishioners will not be able to attend due to current restrictions.