

# ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH

Monday, January 11, 2021

## Updated guidance

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I'm sure you've seen in the news over the weekend, we are being warned that we are at the "worst point" of the epidemic in the UK with the number of Covid patients in hospital now higher than the previous peak last spring.

The government updated their guidance on Friday night to explain that anyone who can keep their children at home, should do so during this national lockdown. **We know how hard it is to work from home while your children are there but ask again, if there is a parent working from home, please keep your children at home.**

We ask this, not because we don't want your children in school but, because it is vital that we reduce the transmission of the virus in the community. We are hearing reports that the hospitals in this area are at capacity. The current Covid rate in our community is 783.9 per 100,000 and this has been rising significantly day on day. The sooner we get this under control, the sooner all the children can be back in school where they should be.

The school governing body have met and risk assessed how many children we can take in each classroom based on the area of each classroom and the higher transmission rate of the new Covid variant. Because we have so many children currently accessing school, we have had to put in place a priority list and are currently at or over capacity in each class. If you are currently taking a space at school for your child but there is a parent working from home, please reconsider keeping your children at home. For new requests that come in, we will be assessing each one against the priority list and it may be that we will have to retract offers to children who are lower down on that priority list.

Kind regards,

Handwritten signature of Laura Kelsey.

Laura Kelsey  
Headteacher

Handwritten signature of Denise Harber.

Denise Harber  
Chair of Governors



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