

# St Joseph The Worker R C Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Evelyn Clayton B.A.Hons QTS



Wednesday, 06 October 2021

Dear Families,

I am writing to you regarding the number of Covid-19 cases within our school and the implications this has for the staff and your children.

This term, we have worked hard to ensure that your children move away from working in bubbles and that a full range of enhanced learning opportunities are planned for the year ahead. However, a recent increase in the number of positive cases within the school has the potential to negatively impact on the work which is taking place. Throughout this pandemic, we have tried to keep our families updated, and I feel that it is important to be open with you once again.

As our school is classed as a workplace, it is subject to the type of control measures not found elsewhere in society. Additional protective measures will be triggered once 10% of children test positive within a single class at any one time. At this point, Public Health Salford will issue the school with a stringent set of instructions which we must action.

This will impact the school in the following ways:

1. Children in a class will operate as a bubble and will not be able to mix with other classes/year groups.

This will in turn affect:

- Whole school assemblies
- After school clubs
- Sporting events/competitions

2. Staff will not be able to work outside of the classroom and will not be able to mix with other staff members.

This will affect:

- The ability of a staff member to run a club/class other than their own group.
- Staff who provide provision across different classes will be limited in their role.
- Teaching assistants will be restricted to the classes which they can support.

3. Visits to the school cannot take place if they involve the affected classroom/class teacher.

This will impact:

- Staff being able to meet with parents face-to-face
- Parents visiting the classroom for open events.

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In my letter to you in early September, I expressed our excitement at the prospect of the return of extra-curricular activities and the ability for children to mix freely across year groups and classes. It is extremely frustrating that restrictions are likely to remain for some time and that there will be periods where we are forced to cancel clubs, events, trips, and other activities, often at very short notice.

I hope that this letter highlights the lack of control the school has over such decisions, and that we can continue to rely on your support.

We intend to continue to arrange clubs and extracurricular activities, in the hope that they can go ahead. However, we must all accept that at times these may be cancelled, often at short notice. As always, we will keep you updated by email and text if arrangements need to change and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Best wishes



E Clayton  
Headteacher

