St Mary’s Primary School

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19/11/21

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your help and cooperation this week. It has been challenging but your response has helped greatly.

We have spoken to PHA this morning. They have confirmed that pupils from P2/3 or other classes who received a negative PCR test do not have to take a day 8 test.

Pupils who received a positive PCR test may return to school after their 10 days isolation without another test. These children will be exempt from further PCR testing for 90 days from the date of their last positive test.

Any child who has Covid symptoms at any stage **must stay at home** and do a PCR test even if an earlier one was negative and remain at home until they have received a negative PCR result.

Covid Symptoms:

* New continuous cough and/or
* High temperature and/or
* A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

We have suggested to parents that if there is a case of Covid within your household that all family members must stay off school to try and help stop further spread. We have spoken to PHA about this and they agreed, that although it is not within their guidance, it is a reasonable request to make as there can be spread within households. The Education Authority also agreed that this was a sensible way to try and prevent further spread. We have a number of vulnerable people in our school community and we wish to protect everyone. If any parents wish to send their child to school however when they have a positive case of Covid within their household that child may attend school.

We continue to keep our policies and procedures in place in relation to the prevention of Covid. Your continued support has been so important and we appreciate it very much.

Please feel free to contact me at any stage via email or via my mobile 07833327070.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Oonagh McNally

Principal