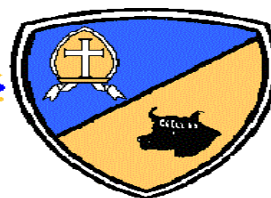


ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Church Lane
Lowton
Warrington
WA3 2PW

☎ 01942 201140

web www.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr S Hardaker e-mail enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk

26 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staff Testing for Covid-19

You will have seen in the national press that the Government has announced a Covid-19 testing programme for primary school staff.

We received our tests last Friday and are in the process of establishing the processes that will allow our staff to take part in the programme. It will not be compulsory for staff to take part and therefore it is possible that not all staff will be tested regularly. St Luke's staff will begin the staff testing programme from week commencing 01 February 2021.

Staff that take part will be asked to test themselves, in their own homes, using a lateral flow device. If they test positive they will be asked to self-isolate, inform Test, Track and Trace and seek a PCR test at a national testing site.

This is a Government and Department for Education led programme, the aim of which is to minimise the transmission of the Covid-19 virus whilst we await the completion of the national vaccination programme. It means that, should your child's teacher, teaching assistant or any other member of the school team that they have been in close contact with, according to the Government's close contact criteria, test positive you may be asked at very short notice to self-isolate your child at home. This could mean that you are contacted late in the evening or early in the morning before the start of the school day. You will initially be notified by text and the test, track and trace letter will be sent to you later in the school day.

It is my sincere hope that none of the school staff test positive for Covid-19 during the testing programme, but I am aware that if they do it could pose short notice childcare issues for you. Therefore, I urge you to consider the possibility that this may happen and have a Covid-19 safe contingency plan in place. I realise that the situation is not ideal, but the programme is Government led and ultimately aims to stop the spread of Covid-19 and keep our school, families and community safe.

Once again I thank you for your continued and very valued support and understanding during what are very difficult times for all of us. I wish you all well and urge you to follow the Government messaging and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

S Hardaker

Mr S Hardaker
Headteacher



SCHOOL
MEMBER

