

Saint Bede's Catholic High School

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Headteacher

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Dear Parents/Carers

Please see below updates in relation to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

We have now received confirmation from the School Age Immunisation Service that they will be visiting school on Friday 19 November to offer the COVID-19 vaccination to pupils aged 12-15. Further details will be issued immediately after half-term, including the arrangements for parents/carers to provide consent.

COVID-19 testing

Pupils should continue to undertake a LFD test twice weekly during the half-term break and have been issued with sufficient testing kits to do so. In particular, **please ensure your child undertakes a LFD test on Sunday 31 October prior to returning to school.**

If your child produces a positive LFD test result, or experiences any COVID-19 symptoms, you should immediately arrange a PCR test via the NHS website. Your child must not attend school until the result is known. The main COVID-19 symptoms are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child produces a positive LFD test result and/or a positive PCR test result please continue to inform school by emailing contact@stbedeslytham.lancs.sch.uk

Work for self-isolating pupils

Schools are legally obliged to provide work for pupils who are unable to attend school due to COVID-19. As you will be aware, at Saint Bede's we use Firefly to provide this work. To make the system as efficient and straightforward for staff as possible, we produce internally a daily list of pupils who are absent from school due to COVID-19 with their expected return date. Staff have been asked to provide work for all pupils who appear on this list until the return date.

Some parents/carers have requested that work is not set for their child as they are unwell with COVID-19 symptoms. Please be assured that we do not, of course, expect any child to complete work at home if they are not well enough to do so. In these circumstances, pupils should simply complete as much or as little work as they are able to. Pupils will not be challenged or disadvantaged in any way when they return to school if they have been unable to complete any work because they have been ill.

I wish all our pupils and families a pleasant half-term break. I look forward to seeing all pupils return on Monday 1st November.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher