



Respect, Courage, Compassion, Friendship, Trust, Perseverance

Head Teacher:  
Mrs C. McManus

Dear Parents and Carers

9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### School's Covid 19 response over the Christmas period

The government has released information to schools regarding track and trace expectations over the Christmas holidays. Yesterday, the government announced the expectation for school leaders to continue to assist with contact tracing over the Christmas holiday period.

Public Health England has agreed on a six-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools are asked to continue to assist with contact tracing. This will allow enough time for positive Covid 19 cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in an education setting to be traced. Beyond the 6 days, school staff will not be asked to play a role in any contact tracing.

The Department for Education has given schools a choice to move an INSET day to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, meaning school leaders would be on duty until 23<sup>rd</sup> December. However, as this would be very short notice for families to rearrange childcare or amend holidays so close to Christmas, School has decided to remain open on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December as previously planned and, therefore, complete the track and trace procedure up to and including Christmas Eve.

For the first 6 days after school closes on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, if a pupil tests positive for Covid 19, **having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school**, you should email school on [responses.sjw@schools.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:responses.sjw@schools.sefton.gov.uk). This email will be checked once a day. Should any children be identified as needing to self-isolate, you will receive a **text message** from School with the self-isolation dates. School is not required to respond to any queries as a result of receiving a self-isolation message.

Where a pupil tests positive for Covid 19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, **school should not be contacted during the holiday period**. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instruction provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

*Cmcmamus*

Mrs. McManus  
Headteacher

