

11-19 Church of England Academy Founded 1699 Hopeful Enquiring Respectful Organised Independent Collaborative

Dear St Martin's Families,

Happy New Year to you! Welcome to Spring Term 2022.

Thank you all so much for your support in ensuring the start of term ran smoothly. Students arrived on time for their Covid 19 Test. I am pleased to report they were very few positive cases, which meant we could resume lessons as soon as testing had been completed. Just a quick reminder that students need to complete their Lateral Flow Tests twice weekly: Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

We will keep you up to date with the latest Government Covid 19 Guidelines as soon as we receive them.

This week the Government Guidance has informed schools that confirmatory PCR Tests are temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11th January. This means that should you child test positive on the home kits: Lateral Flow Test they will need to self isolate for 10 days. They will not need to take a PCR Test to confirm the positive Lateral Flow Test. Students who have tested positive can return to school after 7 days, if they have had 2 negative Lateral Flow Tests.

Should your child come into contact with someone who has tested positive, your child will need to test daily for 7 days. They can attend school as long as they test negative.

If we experience an increase in the number of positive cases of staff and students, it may be necessary to send a Year Group home. We will then initiate our Blended Learning Strategy. This means that the Year Group that has been sent home will attend live lessons via Google Classroom. Details of the timetable will be sent to you should your child's Year Group need to learn from home. We have a Parent Guide to Google Classroom which can be accessed via our school website in the parents' section. We will endeavour to give you as much notice as is reasonably possible.

Thank you again for your support in the last week of term where the increase in positive tests rose suddenly and we had to send a Year Group home.

In my letter that I wrote to you in September, I outlined the importance of learning. We will continue to keep learning as our top priority by minimising disruption to learning.

Please ensure your child can log on to Google Classroom, and let their Form Tutor know if they experience any difficulties.

Working together will secure the best outcomes for your child during these challenging circumstances.

Ms Okokon HEADTEACHER

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