



Diocese of Salisbury

Academy Trust

'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'

Diocesan Education Centre
The Avenue, Wilton
Wiltshire, SP2 0FG
Telephone: 01722 746948
Email: office@dsat.org.uk
www.dsat.org.uk

14th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing as the term draws to a close to thank you again for all your help and co-operation in recent weeks. It has not been easy for anyone and we appreciate all you have been doing to support our schools, leaders and teachers. It is my sincere hope that you and your families have a good Christmas break and that somewhere you will be able to find some rest in the midst of it all. You will have seen press coverage in recent days about schools being able to move an INSET day to Friday this week. The majority of our schools have decided not to change their arrangements so please attend as normal unless you have been informed otherwise. I am really looking forward to taking part in the DSAT online carol service for the children on Thursday which all schools will be participating in.

Your school will be contacting you in the next few days, if they haven't done so already, to share the protocols with you should there be any positive cases of Covid-19 identified in children once the holidays have commenced. Schools are still being expected to assist with contact tracing during the first week of the school holidays, so it is essential that you let us know through the appropriate channel that your school provides you with. Please communicate with the school directly and do not post information on social media as this causes undue concern.

We have been very blessed in recent weeks to have had to deal with relatively few positive cases compared with many schools and trusts. We are keen to keep it that way! If positive cases arise during the second week of the school holidays, we would still like you to notify us through the details shared by your school but be aware that these email inboxes will not be checked so frequently. It really helps us to be prepared for when we return, and to know what is happening with infection in the community. If you inform us of a positive case, please ensure that you include the details requested on page 2 of this letter.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you and your children, over the Christmas period, to do everything that you can to abide by the national guidelines for Tier 2 as things currently stand (see attached poster). We have done so well to contain things in our communities, and we do not want to see things escalating in January. Please ensure that you only mix in line with the rules during the Christmas period and after that, refrain from household mixing should we remain in Tier 2. Once we return to school in January, please remember that the same rules continue to apply in relation to symptoms – children should not be in school if they, or anyone in their family, has symptoms. Those with symptoms need to book a test as soon as possible. Hopefully as the term progresses, vaccines will become more widespread and we can gradually begin to return to some semblance of normality.

Once again, I would like to place on record my thanks to our incredible staff for all they have done these past few months. Also, to thank you as parents and carers in what we know has been an incredibly stressful period for you all. Most of all, to thank the children for being such an inspiration to us every day and making it all worthwhile. My best wishes and greetings to you all for this Christmas period, as we celebrate God's greatest gift of all – as the angels said: 'A Saviour who is Christ the Lord'.

Best wishes,

Mark Lacey, CEO

Has your child **tested positive** for COVID-19?



If **YES** you need to inform the school as soon as possible

The school will need the following information to carry out a risk assessment of who may be a close contact:



Date of onset of COVID-19 symptoms

(including what symptoms they had)



Date of the test



Date of the result

(and evidence of the result/ID number)



Date your child was last in school



How do they get to school?

E.g. walk, cycle, car, public transport, school transport, taxi



If by car – do you car share with anyone else?



If walking – do they walk in with anyone else?



If public transport/school transport

– do they know who they sat near?
















Please provide any additional information you may have as to pupils or staff your child may have been in contact with during this period.

Please note: The infectious period is 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms (or date of the test if tested when asymptomatic).

TIER 2

HIGH ALERT

FROM 2 DEC

| | | | |
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| MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY  <p>No mixing of households indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors.</p> | BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS  <p>Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.</p> | RETAIL  <p>Open.</p> | WORK AND BUSINESS  <p>Everyone who can work from home should do so.</p> |
| EDUCATION  <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p> | INDOOR LEISURE  <p>Open.</p> | ACCOMMODATION  <p>Open.</p> | PERSONAL CARE  <p>Open.</p> |
| OVERNIGHT STAYS  <p>Permitted with household or support bubble.</p> | WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS  <p>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals.</p> | ENTERTAINMENT  <p>Open.</p> | PLACES OF WORSHIP  <p>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p> |
| TRAVELLING  <p>Reduce the number of journeys you make and walk or cycle if possible. Avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid travelling outside your area, or entering a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply.</p> | EXERCISE  <p>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but cannot take place indoors if there is any interaction between people from different households. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.</p> | RESIDENTIAL CARE  <p>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).</p> | LARGE EVENTS  <p>Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)</p> |

Find out what support you can get

For example, if you're out of work, need to get food, or want to take care of your mental health.

gov.uk/coronavirus

If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

A high temperature • A new, continuous cough
A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

Get a test and stay at home

For more information and detailed guidance visit:
gov.uk/coronavirus

