



ST. NORBERT'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2021 - Welcome Back Statement



Dear Families,

We hope that despite the challenging circumstances you have been able to experience a peaceful time of rest over Christmas. There has been much speculation in the media over this weekend and like you, as a parent myself, I continue to watch the news closely to monitor the ever-changing situation with regards to COVID-19. This letter is a reminder of some of the things we are doing to support our children and families. In the event of any National Lockdown I will write to you again with a plan for remote learning for all children.

We continue to remember that this has been a challenging year for you and our children. We acknowledge that our children need a child-centered holistic approach rooted in faith which focuses on mental health and well-being. This approach will support re-connecting our children to other adults, children, learning and the curriculum. We always ensure our mission statement is at the heart of what we do and love being at the core, giving children reassurance and a focus on reconnecting and re-building relationships here at school but also beyond. We will provide a nurturing environment supported by our focus on values, education with our Gospel Value of the Term and monthly character values which currently are 'self-discipline' and 'wisdom'.

In September a new tab was launched on our school website. You are able to select 'Parent Information' and then a Mental Health and Well-Being Tab. Here you are able to find our Whole School Policy and approach including a range of useful resources and support tools for your family. A key feature is our '5 Ways to Well-being approach' inspired by the NHS initiative and New Economics Foundation, which focuses on;

- *Connecting
- *Being Active
- *Taking Notice
- *Keeping Learning
- *Giving

We continue to follow all current health and safety guidance and our robust Risk Assessment provides a space that is playful, accepting, stimulates curiosity and empathy to ensure our school family returns to a new way of life and learning that will ensure they thrive and shine. Our latest Risk Assessment can be located on our school website using this link;

<https://www.st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk/>

If you scroll down it is the link called 'Preparation for school return September 2020 updated 02/12/2020'

We have been very fortunate that the only pupil cases we have had have occurred outside of term time so children have not had contact with any other pupils within 48hours of symptoms or test results. This has enabled the school to remain fully operational with no Bubble/Class closures to



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date. The majority of cases we have seen are parents or family members of children testing positive that has resulted in some children having to isolate with learning packs provided remotely on MS Teams. We would only inform you of a positive case if your child/ren had been in contact and needed to isolate. With every case I have strict guidance I follow and support from both the Department of Education and Public Health England. To continue to keep our children, staff and yourselves as safe as we can please do remember the guidance below:

COVID Guidance

If your child is displaying cold-like symptoms such as a runny nose, watery eyes, mild sore throat and a slight raised temperature then these can be managed with an over the counter paracetamol such as Calpol and by keeping your child well hydrated and good hand hygiene. They do not need to be tested and they or members of your household do not need to self-isolate. You are able to send your child into school and staff will monitor and if they feel they should be at home then a call will be made for you to collect.

If your child displays any of the following COVID 19 symptoms:

- A high temperature where their chest and/or back feels hot to the touch; or
- A new continuous, dry cough – coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); or
- A loss or change to their sense of smell or taste – this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

In the cases above, you **MUST NOT** send your child to school visit [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) to book a test on-line or Call 119 if you cannot book a test on-line. Household self-isolates and inform school immediately about test results. Also, if anyone in your household displays these symptoms you must self-isolate **DO NOT** send your child to school.

Arrival times will be staggered from 8:40 and then every 5 minutes dropped by car or pedestrian travel (maintaining social distancing) through one-way system through to sanitation station and then into school.

- 8:40am: EYFS plus any associated siblings in any other year groups.
- 8:45am: Year 1 plus any associated siblings in any other year groups.
- 8:50am: Year 2 plus any associated siblings in any other year groups.
- 8:55am: Year 3/4 plus any associated siblings in any other year groups.
- 9:00am: Year 5/6 plus any associated siblings in any other year groups.

Children will line up on their spots on playground and wait to be collected, staff member on playground duty will facilitate keep fit activities. If it is too wet the children will enter their bubbles directly as they arrive. We must ask that adults drop their children and leave immediately there is simply not enough space to stay and watch children at the gate at this time. Home time is always going to be a challenge the children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will be out on the playground with any other siblings in family bubble. Please can you ensure only one adult collects wherever possible to keep site traffic to a minimum.

At drop off and collection times the office will be closed as parents are not allowed on site, if you need to hand something in please place in an envelope and send in with your child. For anything else you must call the office on 01775 722889 or email enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

Currently we have some children at home isolating for a number of reasons, Remote Learning is posted by staff on each MS Teams Account with files. Below are additional support websites and tools that you might find useful if isolating:





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Remote Learning Support Websites

Please find below a list of websites that you can access from home to support with home learning. Some of these websites have pre-recorded lessons that can be watched and followed, others have activities and learning suitable for each year group.

Maths

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>
<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/> - All children have log ins for this website
<https://www.thenational.academy/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

English

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
<https://www.thenational.academy/>
<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

RE

<http://edurcdhn.org.uk/school/resources/schoolresourcescovid19.php>

Other Curriculum Subjects

<https://www.thenational.academy/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
<https://blockly.games/>

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via jenna.withers@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk Thank you once again for your overwhelming support and kindness over the year and we hope that 2021 will bring new hope and an improving situation for us all.

You remain as ever in my thoughts and prayers,

Mrs J. Withers
Headteacher

Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

St Thérèse of Lisieux Catholic Multi Academy Trust. Registered address: Suite 4, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln, LN1 3BU. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number: 07973953)

