



# St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

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Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

*Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, I am writing to inform you that we must close the school this evening for the remainder of the Autumn term. This decision has not been taken lightly. It is something we have tried very hard to avoid, but can no longer do so.

After consulting with Public Health England this morning, we have been advised that anyone who has come into contact with someone testing positive for the Omicron strain of Covid-19, or is suspected to have the Omicron strain, must self-isolate for ten days.

We currently have two suspected cases of the Omicron strain in School, in both Year 1 and Year 4. If your child is in those year groups, they must isolate for ten days after you were last in contact with the suspected case, this would have been Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. I strongly advise that you take your child for a PCR test also, as the children with the two positive cases were not showing any symptoms when they tested positive.

Children in Reception class and Year 2 class have also been identified as close contacts, due to the nativity performance on Friday afternoon. This means that these children will also have to self-isolate for ten days. Again I would recommend you also take your children for a PCR test.

There are a number of other children who have been identified as close contacts due to their attendance at Breakfast club, parents of those children will receive an individual text message from school.

A number of staff members have also been identified as close contacts due to working in classes with suspected cases, and they too now have to isolate. This is the main reason we have to shut the whole school, as we now do not have enough adults not isolating to keep the school open safely.

Even though there are only two and a half days left, unless your children are unwell, we will be expecting to see them on Google classrooms every morning for registration for the rest of this week. Teachers will also be setting





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some activities for the children to complete over the next few days. The work will be very much shadowing what was going to be happening in school, e.g. finishing off topics and Christmas based activities. If you do not have your child's Google classroom log in details, please contact Edita at the front office, who will help you further with this.

I would like to take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience this information may cause, but trust that you all understand the difficult situation we find ourselves in. As always, thank you so much for your continued support of the school and the decisions we must make at this time.

If you are uncertain by anything contained in this letter, please do get in touch to discuss further.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

