



# ST. HILD'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

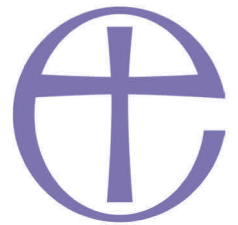
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**Headteacher:** Mrs. T. Gibson, BEd. Physics.

At St. Hild's Church of England School we aim to provide all of our pupils with a world class education in a Christian context.

We expect to find God at work in our school.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

1st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I write this letter to you with a great sense of joy and anticipation; days are getting longer, the vaccine programme is being rolled out at an astonishing rate, and most importantly we are preparing for our wonderful pupils' return to school. I cannot tell you how excited the staff are to get the children back in the building for face to face teaching.

It is expected that all children return to school unless they are shielding, have symptoms of Covid-19 or are self-isolating; if this is the case you must contact the school immediately to let us know. If your child is living with a shielded person they can still return to school. We have produced a video which can be found on our website and YouTube channel to support your child's return to school.

Once the pupils return to school they will follow the same routines as they did during the autumn term, however the guidance states that a face covering should be worn at all times, including in the classroom. As a reminder, only face masks (either washable or disposable) will be acceptable, snoods or other scarf coverings are not allowed. We will continue to supply your child with a small plastic bag for mask storage and will ensure they have been taught how to correctly put on and take off their mask to minimise any spread of infection. Parents and carers should ensure any cloth masks used are regularly washed and disposable masks are regularly replaced.

We ask that parents and carers support us in ensuring that their child is aware of the guidance and will adhere to it. This, along with the continued "**Hands – Face – Space**" will hopefully help to reduce rates of transmission of the virus and get life back to normal by the summer.

The government guidance states that

- All secondary school and college students will take coronavirus (COVID-19) tests as they return to the classroom from Monday 8 March. Schools and colleges will have discretion on how to phase the return of their students over the week beginning 8th March to allow them to be tested on return.
- After an initial programme of 3 tests in school or college, students will be provided with two rapid tests to use each week at home. Secondary school and college staff will also continue to be provided with two tests to use each week at home.

St. Hild's has taken the decision to test all pupils, where consent has been given, before they return to the classroom. To facilitate this we have put together the schedule below for the testing and return to school; **you will receive written communication separately with details of the time and date for your child to attend our test centre.**



*"I have come that they may have life in all its fullness."* - John 10:10



Your child will attend Space to Learn for their first test at the allocated time and then return home. We will contact you the same day ONLY if your child tests positive. It is therefore imperative that we have up to date home contact numbers so please contact the Main Office if you need to check or update your contact details.

If you do not hear from us then your child should return to school as per the schedule below.

If your child is unable to attend for their allocated slot, please contact the school as soon as possible so that an alternative time can be arranged.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Morning testing 8:30am – 12:00pm</b>	<b>Afternoon testing 1:00pm – 4:30pm</b>	<b>Pupils attending school</b>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	10	11	Vulnerable & key worker only
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	7	8	10, 11 Vulnerable & key worker
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	9		7, 8, 10, 11 Vulnerable & key worker
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	10	11	All pupils
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	8	7	All pupils
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9		All pupils
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	11	10	All pupils
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	7	8	All pupils
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9		All pupils

Whilst in school, if your child displays Covid-19 symptoms, or tests positive on the LFD test, we will contact you to collect them immediately and ask that you take your child home to self-isolate for 10 days. There is no need to take a PCR test following a positive LFD test. If the school receives notification of a positive PCR or LFD test we will look at close contact and get in touch with parents and carers where there is a need for their child to self-isolate; please note there is now no facility to take the daily test as was the previous guidance.

I have linked the guidance to parents as a reminder of how to support your child.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

In order to prepare for the return of the pupils we will not be delivering “live lessons” from Monday 1st March. However, learning will be available via TEAMS for every lesson and teachers can still be contacted if there are issues. Once each Year group has returned to school all learning will be in school.

We have been so impressed with how our pupils have been working hard at home and in order to help accelerate their progress we have taken the decision not to collect in the laptops that have been loaned by the School. These can continue to be used for the home working element of your child's learning and to support further study.

Please continue to check our website, Twitter and SchoolCal for any updates. Our Newsletter will be out soon.

If you have any queries which are not addressed by the information on our website, please do not hesitate to contact us via the Main School Office and we will do our best to help.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the many positive messages of support for the work of our brilliant staff. They really have gone above and beyond expectation to give your child the best possible provision.

Please look after yourselves and your family, and I hope you and the pupils are as excited to return to school as we are to see them back!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Gibson', written in a cursive style.

**T Gibson**  
**Headteacher**