



# Our Vision

To inspire a love of learning

## St Gilbert's Church of England Primary School

Foundry Road Stamford Lincolnshire PE9 2PP

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### Re: Change of Date for End of Term 2

Following the government announcement yesterday regarding the end of the school term and the DFE confirmation school received towards the end of the school day, I am writing to you all to advise you of the arrangements we are putting into place.

As you may know, Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools have been asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test, and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced. Should we finish on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December, this would mean that specific staff would need to be contactable up until the end of Christmas Eve. I am sure you will all realise that this then clashes with the five-day window we have all been given for Christmas to see families within the specific festive restrictions.

Due to this, schools have been given the opportunity to transfer an outstanding Training Day to the end of the Autumn Term in order to provide greater protection against track and trace over the Christmas period for both pupils and staff. ***With this in mind, the Training Day planned for Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March is now being moved to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. This means that St. Gilbert's will close to all pupils at the end of the school day on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and reopen on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.***

We have been directed by the Department of Education and Public Health that track and trace procedures will need to remain in place for the first six days of the Christmas holidays. With bringing the end of term forward, track and trace will run right up to the end of Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. I have detailed below, procedures for you during this 6-day window so you are aware of how and when to contact the school. School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching – 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

### **More than 48 hours since being in school**

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the **school should not be contacted**. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

### **Within 48 hours of being in school**

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school has been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Please follow the procedures below should you need to contact us.



Headteacher: Miss F Dicker  
Company No. 8321824  
T: 01780 762400  
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1. Please contact the school on 07598 934182 should your child develop any symptoms within 48 hours of being in school. This means any symptoms between Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.55pm until Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3.20pm. For any children that attend Gilbert's Gang on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, the 48 hrs will end once your child leaves with a deadline of 6.00pm. Parents will be asked to leave their name, their child's name, a message and contact details. Please ensure you do not delay in getting your child tested so that we can contact all those who have been in close contact with your child as soon as possible.
2. Once you know the result, please contact the school immediately on 07598 934182 and we will begin the process of contacting parents and advising Public Health if it is a positive result.
3. Should we need to contact parents, we will send you an initial text and then follow it up with a letter to confirm arrangements.

Please be advised that where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case **after** the first six days following the end of term, we do not need to be contacted regarding any impact on absence until the beginning of the new academic term.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for all your support this term. I do appreciate this information is late in the term, but it is intended to give additional protection to us all.

With my very best wishes



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Headteacher



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