



Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases continues to remain high in Walsall, with a gradual weekly increase during the past month. The majority of positive cases are currently in school aged children and young people.

At the current time, given the very low rates at St Joseph's, we do not intend to introduce any additional measures to what we have in place. However, this may change if rates of infection rise within school.

How you can help

To keep education and family life moving in Walsall, here are some practical things you can do:

Keep your child off school and book a PCR test if they have COVID symptoms - high temperature, continuous cough, loss or change to taste or smell) - regardless of how mild. Do not use a lateral flow test and instead book your PCR test online via www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

- Carry out twice-weekly Lateral Flow Tests at home (children aged 12+ only).
- Book a PCR test for everyone in your household if one member tests positive
- Follow hands-face-space and fresh air.

Try to meet outdoors where possible, or if indoors, open windows, wear a face covering in crowded places and wash your hands regularly.

Even if you have had your COVID-19 vaccinations, by making the above part of your routine, you will be helping our school community to continue doing the things we enjoy and help stop the virus spreading.

Whilst the risk of serious illness from COVID-19 is low for children and young people, it is important that we take proactive steps to reduce the spread of infection, bring cases down and minimise further disruption to education.

Thank you again for your continued support

God Bless

Mrs Hinton