

SJF NEWS

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Friday 8th January 2021 (Issue 16 - 2020/21)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to you! I hope you managed to have a happy and restful holiday, and that everyone in your immediate and extended families managed to stay safe and well.

At the start of 2021 we find ourselves again in a national lockdown as a result of the rapid spread of both the original and the more infectious new variant of the virus. These are challenging times for everyone!

As I type this we have passed a grim milestone as country with 80,000 COVID-related deaths. At the present rate, it is reported that we will reach 100,000 deaths by mid-February unless things change quickly. We have 68,000 new cases daily; many hospitals full, or nearly full; an emergency declared in London; and news that as many as 1 in 3 people can carry and pass on the virus without even realising that they have it!

In response the Prime Minister, the Chief Medical Office, the Secretary of State for Health, the leader of the opposition and countless politicians and doctors have told us that **we must all stay at home** if we can.

We have seen doctors and nurses in news reports working so hard in the hospitals to care for huge numbers of patients, desperately ill with COVID-19 and we have been moved by heart breaking stories of what they, the patients and the families have been through or are going through.

The virus and its new variant remain an ever-present threat to everyone and must be taken seriously! It is our duty to take notice of the government advice and to stay at home if we can in order in order to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our NHS. By doing this we really will help slow the spread and save lives.

We have to play our parts if there is to be any hope of bringing the virus under control, whilst we wait for the vaccine to be rolled out. The virus relies on human contact and so staying at home will help slow the spread.

I want to take this opportunity to repeat our promise to do all we can as a school community to support you, your children and the national response to this terrible emergency. Please call or email us if you need to.

We have worked hard to respond quickly to the huge challenge of setting up home-learning; ensuring that those entitled to free school meals receive weekly hampers; and to make provision for all vulnerable children as well as the children of key and critical workers, in line government expectations.

The definition of workers who can now be defined as 'key' and 'critical' has been widened. This has meant that many schools across England are finding that the number of pupils wanting places has surged, just as we have all been told to stay at home. Some schools are reporting really high numbers attending.

At SJF we want to support all our key and critical workers as part of the national fightback by providing places for their children **when they need them**. All children of critical/key workers who need a place, will have one.

However, I ask that these places are only taken up by critical/key children when their parents/carers are working (or sleeping after an overnight shift). It is important that they stay at home otherwise, to support the 'stay at home' message and help slow the spread of the virus.



Where one parent is a key/critical worker and the other is not, please consider seriously whether the non key/critical worker can look after the child(ren) at home.

Where key/critical workers work part-time, please only use our provision on the days you need to work or sleep after an overnight shift.

If you are having trouble accessing remote learning from home or you need equipment, please contact us so we can offer advice or provide one of the additional laptops we have secured, before sending your child in to school.

By accessing our critical/key provision only when you need to and by keeping your children at home when you can, you will help us and support the key message to stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives.

Citizen of the Week

Our jam-packed school calendar meant that it was not possible to have our usual Celebration Assembly for three weeks at the end of last term. So we I am delighted to share the good news and celebrate the achievements of our final three recipients of 2020 now!

- Our recipient on **Friday 4th December** was **Lillyann** in **Y2** who understands that it is really important to think before she makes choices that affect her health - in line with our 'Statement to Live By' that week. Lillyann is an extremely well-mannered and kind member of our community, who can always be relied upon to work hard and behave well. She is really helping her class bubble by giving them reminders about hand washing and social distancing. Congratulations Lillyann, we are all very proud of you!
- Our recipient on **Friday 11th December** was **Adriana** in **FS2** who can work, rest and pray each day in line with our 'Statement to Live By' that week. Adriana is already a positive role-model to classmates because she always tries to do the right thing and sets such a great example! Well done Adriana, what a superstar!
- Our recipient on **Friday 18th December** was **Nakai** in **Y1** who understands that simple can make us happiest! She is hardly ever seen without a smile on her face, engaging busily and excitedly with her learning. Nakai is so kind and helpful to others in her class. Congratulations Nakai, keep it up superstar!

Term 2 Final Smiley Scores

St Andrew's House



693

St David's House



718

St Patrick's House



753

St George's House



711

Term 2 Champions

Congratulations to the young people of St Patrick's House for earning the most smiley house points in Term 2. They will be rewarded with Golden Time after lockdown, when all members will be in School.

Lockdown

In order to ensure absolute fairness for children learning at home and school, I have decided to put a hold to the award of smiley house points during lockdown. We will all continue to encourage, support and affirm our children - whether they are at home or in school – so that their learning and wellbeing are as good as possible. Everything will go back to normal after lockdown. We just want everything to be as fair as possible, and we appreciate that things like this will be important to a number of our children, especially those at home.



Our Catholic Life

Our January Prayer

Our January prayer is the Agnus Dei or 'The Lamb of God'. The prayer is said during the part of Mass that recalls Jesus' last supper with His apostles. The Last Supper was when the bread and wine were transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time, and then shared by Jesus with his friends. It is a very special prayer that reminds us that Jesus lived and died to save us by taking away our sins.

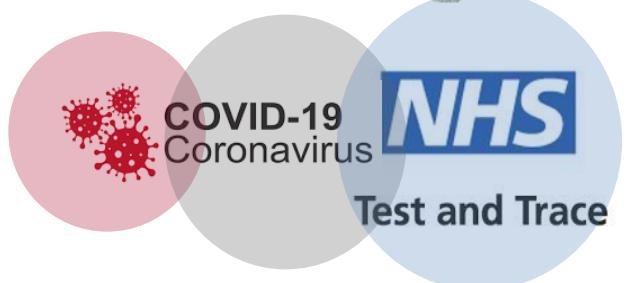
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
 Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
 Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace



COVID-19 Update

England has been placed in lockdown for the whole of Term 3. Below is a summary of what you can and cannot do during the national lockdown taken from Gov.uk website.

The key message is that **EVERYONE** must stay at home. This is the single most important action that we can all take in order to protect the NHS and save lives. You should follow this guidance immediately. This is [the law](#).



Leaving Home

You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are allowed to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible

If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay local - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work. Stay local means stay in the village, town, or part of the city where you live.

If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential and should not attend work

Meeting Others

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a support bubble with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

You may exercise on your own, with one other person, or with your household or support bubble. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

You cannot meet other people you do not live with, or have not formed a support bubble with, unless for a permitted reason and stay 2m apart from anyone who is not in your household.

Education

Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. All other children will learn remotely until February half term. Early years settings remain open.

Higher Education provision will remain online until mid-February for all except future critical worker courses.



Who this guidance is for?

This guidance is for people who are fit and well.

There is additional advice for [people who are clinically extremely vulnerable to coronavirus](#) and [households with a possible or confirmed coronavirus infection](#). If you are clinically extremely vulnerable you should follow [resumed shielding guidance](#) and should not attend work, school, college or university. You should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.

Hands-Face-Space.

Approximately 1 in 3 people who have coronavirus have no symptoms and could be spreading it without realising it.

Remember - 'Hands. Face. Space.'

- **HANDS:** wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds
- **FACE:** wear a face covering indoors; where social distancing is difficult; and where you come into contact with people not in your household
- **SPACE:** stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings)



In all circumstances, you should follow the [guidance on meeting others safely](#).

When You Can Leave Home

You must not leave or be outside of your home except where you have a 'reasonable excuse'. This is the law. The police can take action against you if you leave home without a 'reasonable excuse', and issue you with a fine (Fixed Penalty Notice). You can be given a Fixed Penalty Notice of £200 for the first offence, doubling for further offences up to a maximum of £6,400. A 'reasonable excuse' includes:

- ✓ **Work**
 - you can only leave home for work purposes where it is unreasonable for you to do your job from home
 - this includes, but is not limited to, people who work within critical national infrastructure, construction or manufacturing – those requiring in-person attendance
- ✓ **Volunteering**
 - you can also leave home to provide voluntary or charitable services
- ✓ **Essential activities**
 - You can leave home to buy things at shops or obtain services. You may also leave your home to do these things on behalf of a disabled or vulnerable person or someone self-isolating.
- ✓ **Education and childcare**
 - you can only leave home for education, registered childcare, and supervised activities for children where the child is eligible to attend
 - access to education/children's activities for children is restricted ([information on education/childcare](#))
 - you can continue existing arrangements for contact between parents and children if they live apart
 - if you live in a household with anyone aged under 14, you can also [form a childcare bubble](#)

Meeting others and care

You can leave home:

- to visit people in your [support bubble](#) (if you are legally permitted to form one)
- to provide informal childcare for children under 14 as part of a [childcare bubble](#) (for example, to enable parents to work, not to enable social contact between adults)
- to provide care for disabled or vulnerable people



- to provide emergency assistance
- to attend a support group (of up to 15 people)
- for respite care where that care is being provided to a vulnerable person or a person with a disability, or is a short break in respect of a looked-after child

Exercise

You can continue to exercise alone, with one other person or with your household or support bubble. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area. You should maintain social distancing. See exercising.

Medical reasons

You can leave home for a medical reason, including to get a COVID-19 test, for medical appointments and for emergencies.

Maternity

You can leave home to be with someone who is giving birth or, accessing other maternity services, or to be with a baby receiving neonatal critical care. There is NHS guidance on pregnancy and coronavirus.

Harm

You may leave home, to avoid injury or illness or to escape risk of harm (such as domestic abuse).

Compassionate Visits

You may also leave home to visit someone who is dying or someone in a care home (if permitted under care home guidance), hospice, or hospital, or to accompany them to a medical appointment.

Animal Welfare Reasons

You can leave home for animal welfare reasons, such as to attend veterinary services for advice or treatment.

Communal Worship and Life Events

You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship, to attend a funeral or event related to a death, to visit a burial ground or a remembrance garden, or to attend a wedding ceremony. You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble. Weddings, funerals and religious, belief-based or commemorative events linked to someone's death are all subject to limits on the numbers that can attend.

Further Reasonable Excuses

There are further reasonable excuses. For example, you may leave home to fulfil legal obligations, or to carry out activities related to buying, selling, letting or renting a residential property, for the purpose of picketing, or where it is reasonably necessary for voting in an election or referendum.

Meeting Other People

It is against the law to meet socially with family or friends unless they are part of your household or support bubble. You cannot leave home for recreational or leisure purposes (such as for a picnic or a social meeting).

Exercising

You should minimise time spent outside your home, but you can leave your home to exercise. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

You can exercise in a public outdoor place:

- by yourself
- with the people you live with
- with your support bubble (if you are legally permitted to form one)
- in a childcare bubble where providing childcare
- or, when on your own, with 1 person from another household



This includes but is not limited to running, cycling, walking, and swimming. Personal training can continue one-on-one unless everyone is within the same household or support bubble.

Public outdoor places include:

- parks, beaches, countryside accessible to the public, forests
- public gardens (whether or not you pay to enter them)
- the grounds of a heritage site
- playgrounds

Outdoor sports venues must close, for example:

- tennis courts
- golf courses
- swimming pools

Children under 5, and up to two carers for a person with a disability who needs continuous care, are not counted towards the gatherings limits for exercising outside.

If you (or a person in your care) have a health condition that routinely requires you to leave home to maintain your health - including if that involves travel beyond your local area or exercising several times a day - then you can do so.

When around other people, stay 2m apart those not in your household (people you live with or in your [support bubble](#)). Where this is not possible, stay 1m apart with extra precautions (e.g. face covering).

Face Coverings

You must wear a face covering in many indoor settings, such as shops or places of worship where these remain open, and on public transport, unless you are exempt. This is the law. [Read guidance on face coverings](#).

Support and Childcare Bubbles

You have to meet certain eligibility rules to form a support or childcare bubble. This means not everyone will be able to form a bubble.

- A [support bubble](#) is a support network which links two households. You can form a support bubble with another household of any size only if you meet the [eligibility rules](#).
- It is against the law to form a support bubble if you do not follow these rules.
- You are permitted to leave your home to visit your support bubble (and to stay overnight with them). However, if you form a support bubble, it is best if this is with a household who live locally. This will help prevent the virus spreading from an area where more people are infected.
- If you live in a household with anyone aged under 14, you can form a [childcare bubble](#). This allows friends or family from one other household to provide informal childcare.
- You must not meet socially with your childcare bubble, and must avoid seeing members of your childcare and support bubbles at the same time.
- There is separate guidance for [support bubbles](#) and [childcare bubbles](#).

Meeting in Larger Groups

There are still circumstances in which you are allowed to meet others from outside your household, childcare or support bubble in larger groups, but this should not be for socialising and only for permitted purposes.

A full list of these circumstances will be included in the regulations, and includes:

- ✓ for work, or providing voluntary or charitable services, where it is unreasonable to do so from home. This can include work in other people's homes where necessary - for example, for nannies, cleaners, social care workers providing support to children and families, or tradespeople. See guidance on [working safely](#)



in other people's homes. Where a work meeting does not need to take place in a private home or garden, it should not, although you can meet a personal trainer, you should do so in a public outdoor place.

- ✓ in a childcare bubble (for the purposes of childcare only)
- ✓ where eligible to use these services, for education, registered childcare, and supervised activities for children. Access to education/childcare facilities is restricted (education and childcare).
- ✓ for arrangements where children do not live in the same household as both their parents or guardians
- ✓ to allow contact between birth parents and children in care, as well as between siblings in care
- ✓ for prospective adopting parents to meet a child or children who may be placed with them
- ✓ to place or facilitate the placing of a child or children in the care of another by social services
- ✓ for birth partners
- ✓ to provide emergency assistance, and to avoid injury or illness, or to escape a risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- ✓ to visit someone who is dying or to visit someone receiving treatment in a hospital, hospice or care home, or to accompany a family member or friend to a medical appointment
- ✓ to fulfil a legal obligation, such as attending court or jury service
- ✓ for gatherings within criminal justice accommodation or immigration detention centres
- ✓ to provide care or assistance to someone vulnerable, or to provide respite for a carer
- ✓ for a wedding or equivalent ceremony. This should only be in exceptional circumstances and is limited to six people.
- ✓ for funerals - up to a maximum of thirty people. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events can continue in a group of up to six people.
- ✓ for elite sportspeople (and their coaches if necessary, or parents/guardians if they are under 18) - or those on an official elite sports pathway - to compete and train
- ✓ to facilitate a house move

Support groups that have to be delivered in person can continue with up to 15 participants where formally organised to provide mutual aid, therapy or any other form of support - but they must take place at a premises other than a private home.

Where a group includes someone covered by an exception (for example, someone who is working or volunteering), they are not generally counted as part of the gatherings limit. This means, for example, a tradesperson can go into a household without breaching the limit, if they are there for work, and the officiant at a wedding would not count towards the limit.

Breaking the Rules

The police can take action against you if you meet in larger groups. This includes breaking up illegal gatherings and issuing fines (fixed penalty notices). You can be given a Fixed Penalty Notice of £200 for the first offence, doubling for further offences up to a maximum of £6,400. If you hold, or are involved in holding, an illegal gathering of over 30 people, the police can issue fines of £10,000.

Term 3 Learning & PE Value

Our Term 3 Learning Value is 'Respect'. We need to understand that having respect for both ourselves and others is key to being happy and confident. It is also important if we want to be liked and respected by others in return.

Having respect for ourselves and others is very important because:

- ✓ it helps us to be more self-confident
- ✓ it means that we encourage others to also be more confident
- ✓ it helps us to see ourselves and others through kind eyes
- ✓ it teaches us to like ourselves and to be proud of our achievements without being arrogant
- ✓ it leads us to celebrate - joyfully - the qualities, attributes and achievements of others



- ✓ it empowers us to build resilience so that we can face challenges positively (and overcome them)
- ✓ it keeps families and communities strong and united
- ✓ it enables us and others to feel happy, safe and loved
- ✓ it opens our minds to new ideas and possibilities
- ✓ it helps us to learn more about our own lives, drivers and potential as well as those of others
- ✓ it encourages us to be accepting of difference and to remember that which is shared in common
- ✓ it helps us to grow fully as children of God, every day
- ✓ it reminds us that we each also play a part in the development of others who are on their own journeys

Attendance

Attendance in school during lockdown is reported to the government, the local authority and the Diocese. Attendance by home-learners at the twice daily 'check-in' sessions will be recorded by the system and will also be reported back, as will the engagement with remote learning by the children at home.

It is important that children at home engage with the activities planned by their teachers, in line with government expectations. Evidence of this will help us assess whether children are engaging or not. If you have any issues at all, please contact us immediately (enquiries@st-johnfisher.org or 0114 248 5009)

Golden Children

Friday 27th November 2020

FS2		Edwin for fantastic listening, fantastic learning and always smiling!
Y1		James for trying so hard with his home learning, absolutely brilliant!
Y2		Dominic for having a great attitude this week and for setting an excellent example to the whole class by listening actively and being ready to learn. What a superstar!
Y3		Bella-Rae for working hard and for trying her very best and to be active and independent in her learning. What a super example you have given others!
Y4		Alexia for trying really hard in our PE lessons and for completing seven 60 second challenges! A fantastic effort, well done!
Y5		Marika for making an absolutely fantastic start to his SJF journey! We are so delighted he is now part of our family! Amazing effort!
Y6		Harley for always being positive and encouraging members of the class and coming to school every day with a smile on his face. Well done Harley!

Friday 4th December 2020

FS2		Enzo for trying hard with his speech sounds. Well done Enzo!
Y1		Niamh for trying really hard and being an excellent role model to her class. Well done Niamh!
Y2		Lillyann for trying really hard in class and having a really positive attitude towards her work!
Y3		Sammy for always offering his help and being kind and supportive to his classmates!
Y4		Owen for having a go at the home learning work set and for using Microsoft Teams in order to develop his learning further. Fantastic! Well done Owen!
Y5		Olivia M for working so hard to complete her home learning! What a star!
Y6		Emilia for ALWAYS working hard and for never, ever giving up! Emilia always tries her best- even when the going gets tough! Well done Emilia!



Friday 11th December 2020

FS2	Izabela	for her growth in confidence and trying really hard. She is making lots of new friends too. Well done Izabela!
Y1	Nakai	for trying really hard in her work and helping everybody in class. What a superstar!
Y2	Lincoln	for really trying to do the right thing and trying super hard in class. Brilliant effort Lincoln!
Y3	Florence	for working extremely hard to tackle the particularly tricky areas of Mathematics and for giving everything her best effort and continuing to blow away all adults who work with her!
Y4	Bronte	for having a brilliantly positive attitude towards all her different lessons. Bronte always tries her hardest- we cannot ask for anymore. Brilliant work superstar!
Y5	Lacey-Lou	for working so hard in mathematics, particularly with her times tables - where her confidence is flourishing! Fantastic effort Lacy-Lou!
Y6	Sophie	for always ensuring that every new piece of work is her best, always with excellent presentation and for asking some excellent questions. Superb Sophie, absolutely brilliant!

Friday 18th December 2020

FS2	Ava S	for her growing confidence, trying really hard and for being an absolute super star!
Y1	Charlotte	for doing the right thing and making the right choices. A fantastic role model- Fantastic!
Y2	Emily	for trying really hard in her home learning and showing great determination. Excellent Emily!
Y3	Aalia	for remaining determined to try her best in her home learning activities. Even when technology proved tricky Aalia kept going and used Microsoft Teams brilliantly!
Y4	Emily W	for engaging and working hard all week. She has continued to work hard on her home learning in all subjects. What a star!
Y5	Olivia W	for working extremely hard this week in maths and making some excellent progress with long multiplication. Brilliant effort!
Y6	Olivia	for a fantastic mind set and focus ALWAYS working hard and for never ever giving up! Emelia always tries her best, well done!

Writing Champions

Friday 27th November 2020

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Noah	Kyrel	Keyla	D'Mari	Owen	Courtney	Faith

Friday 4th December 2020

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Noah	Kaius	Roman	Willow	Finn	Stefania	Marisa

Friday 11th December 2020

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Max	Gabriella	Aureilia	D'Mari	Hannah	Azaan	Mike

Friday 18th December 2020

FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Gabriella	Natalia	Luke	Ava	Mateusz	Ernie	Philemon



Statement to Live By

Our 'statement to live by' is:

'I try to follow school and classroom rules'

Time to talk: Why do we have rules?

Do they actually help us?

What would happen if there were no rules?

How do rules help us and others to feel happy, safe and loved?

What rules do you have at home?

What rules does Jesus give us so that we can grow closer to Him?

Best wishes,

F Barratt

In Our Home

Always be honest

PROVERBS 12:22

Forgive and forget

MICAH 7:18

Be kind hearted

EPHESIANS 4:32

Keep your promises

ROMANS 4:21

Work hard

COLOSSIANS 3:23

Be thankful

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

Never give up

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

but most important

Love One Another

1 PETER 1:22

