



ST AGNES Catholic Primary School

With Jesus beside us, we do our best

Rainhill Way, Bow, London, E3 3ER

Tel: 020 8980 3076

Email: office@st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms B McDaid

24th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We are now in the fourth week of our first half term. We have had many incidents of children feeling unwell at school showing one of the three symptoms associated with Covid 19. They are a high temperature of over **37.8 degrees**, where children feel hot to the touch, a **new** continuous cough or a change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). When children present with one of these symptoms they are sent home, in accordance with Government and NHS advice and their parents/carers are asked to ensure they isolate and book a test. Further guidance is attached to this letter for various possible situations.

I know this is a frustrating time for all of us, particularly when children have to be sent home. We want your children in school. You want your children in school. Your children want to be in school. However we have to apply this rule across the school to ensure the safety of the whole school community. This is made doubly frustrating for all given that the Test and Trace system is not running as it should and there are long delays in getting tests and subsequent results.

Given all this, I would ask that you do not take your frustration out on our front office staff. They are applying rules set down by the Government without exception and at times are feeling the brunt of your irritation. We all knew this would be a challenging year but with your full co-operation we will get through it. Those children who are sent home are awarded an X code in the register and are not penalised for poor attendance as this does not appear on their overall record. Homework is sent home to support their learning or they are signposted to our **new homework blog** on the school website. <https://www.st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk/>

Once again I would like to thank you for your co-operation, managing all the different start and finish times, different entrances and exits and rules associated with keeping children safe during Covid all with the uncertainty of what the Government's next move might be!

With much appreciation

Ms B McDaid
HEADTEACHER