




# St Peter's Catholic School



National Teaching School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

## *Faith is our Foundation*

Headteacher: Mrs M.E. Murphy



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Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Metropolitan Borough of Solihull

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of a very strange academic year, I would like to thank you, the parents, the pupils and the staff at St Peter's, for the continued support throughout. We have endured lockdowns, remote learning and isolation of pupils, but everyone has shown resilience and determination to make this work.

When we return in September, we hope for a more normal environment; however, the Government have announced the requirement to test all pupils twice on their return. With this in mind, we have made the decision to stagger the start for our pupils:

Year 7 – Back Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Years 7, 11 and 13 – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
All year groups – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

All arrangements will be finalised after the date for changes to restriction in education of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021, we will write to you again then to confirm details for the new academic year.

At this time of year, we have to say goodbye to some members of staff, who are leaving us for pastures new, and wish them all the best for the future.

During this week, there have been a number of fundraising activities: we have currently raised £481.71 from the Sports Shirt day on Monday, and a further £475.90 from non-uniform day today. Thank you for all your generosity.

### **Year 9 Options**

Members of the leadership team and Miss Galligan have been discussing issues to do with options with pupils and their parents in recent weeks. If you or your child have not been contacted, and no requests to change options have been made, your child will be studying the choices they made back in February in September.

### **Free school meal vouchers update - summer holidays 2021**

[Free school meal vouchers - summer holidays 2021](#) is an important announcement about food support over the summer holidays, for families eligible for benefits-related free school meals.



## Online Safety over the summer holidays

We are aware that as the summer holidays approach, children may be spending more time online. To support your child's safety online, we have looked at a number of weblinks that may help in the forthcoming weeks. We have divided the information into common problems and provided resources that can help keep parents informed. The categories include:

- Keeping your child safe online
- Keeping up to date with the latest apps
- Applying parental controls to digital devices, gaming consoles and social media
- Reporting issues to social media sites
- Gaming – what parents need to know

### Keeping your child safe online

Thinkuknow have produced a helpful resource to help keeping your child safe online while they are off school. For your convenience we have attached this PDF file to the email.

### Keeping up to date with the latest apps.

If you're concerned about keeping up-to-date with the latest apps your child has been using, NSPCC's Net Aware provides simple guides for parents to the most popular social networks, apps and games. Simply type in the app you wish to review in the search bar and the website will provide you with useful information to help parents make an informed decision.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>



#### Step-by-step Guides

Click on the guides for step-by-step instructions to set controls on popular devices.



### Parental Controls

Internet Matters.org have produced excellent resources on setting up parental controls in a step by step format. Simply click on the links below to explore ways in which parents can set up parental controls on digital devices and popular social media apps. Each circular icon that is loaded represents a guide and can be accessed by simply clicking on the icon.

#### Parental controls on **Smartphones and other devices**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>

#### Parental controls on **Entertainment and search engines**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/>

Parental controls on **Broadband and mobile networks**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>

Parental controls on **Social media**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/social-media/>

Parental controls on **Gaming console**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/blog/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>

### **Reporting to social media sites**

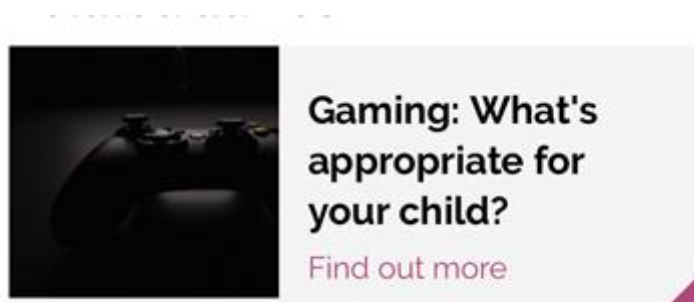
At times, pupils may post information they regret. The easiest way to deal with this is for them to delete it from their account immediately. If another user has posted about your child which causes concern or upset, websites and social media sites offer users a way of reporting. If you click on the following link, you will be presented with a comprehensive list of guidance and ways of reporting to sites. It is important to remember that making a report does not always mean the content will be removed.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites/>

### **Gaming: What parents need to know.**

Thinkuknow have produced some useful guidelines on online gaming for young people.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>



On the right of the weblink, above, you will also find a section on 'finding appropriate games for you child' with a link to the 'Video Standards Council Rating Board' website which allows you to search a game to review a breakdown of the content. You can also access this website by clicking on this link;

<https://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/>

We hope that these resources will help you to monitor your child's online activities and keep them safe in a digitally changing world.

### **Changes to contact tracing in education and childcare settings**

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12<sup>th</sup> July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July.

One of the key changes that will take place from 19 July is that education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts. This letter sets out in more detail below how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

#### Self-isolating and taking a test

1. If your child has symptoms, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a PCR test for them. If the PCR result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the PCR result is positive, they, other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.
2. If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the LFD test.
3. PCR tests can be booked online through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.
4. PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but you should also communicate the result to the education or childcare setting during term time or summer provision.

#### Contact tracing

5. If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace will contact you, using the details you registered when ordering the PCR test. You and/or your child will be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.
6. You will be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals – or their parents or guardians – who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

#### Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts

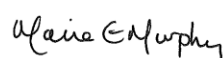
7. At present, anyone identified as a close contact is legally required to self-isolate and must not attend their education or childcare setting (the only exception is if they are participating in a daily contact testing trial). Anyone identified as a non-household close contact by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of their most recent contact with that person. If they live in the same household, they must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of that person developing symptoms (see point 1 above) or, if that person was asymptomatic, the date of their test (see point 2 above). NHS Test and Trace will notify you of the day on which the self-isolation period ends.
8. Close contacts are also advised to take a PCR test. If the test result is negative, they must still complete the full self-isolation period, as the test will not detect all positive cases. If the result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for a further 10 days – and NHS Test and Trace will contact them to identify any close contacts.
9. **From 16 August**, if the close contact is under 18, they will not have to self-isolate (in line with the policy for fully vaccinated adults) but will be asked to take an PCR test immediately, other than for very young children identified as non-household contacts, and they will not need to self-isolate while awaiting the results of the

test. If the PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch to identify close contacts (see points 5 and 6 above). Further guidance on these changes to self-isolation will be provided shortly.

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families, education and childcare settings have had to make. This has been an enormously challenging time for everyone and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for everything you have done to support us.

Have a restful summer.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs M E Murphy  
Headteacher