



# St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

Birchanger Road  
London SE25 5BN

Headteacher  
**Noel Campbell**

Tel: (020) 8654 3006

26th November 2021

REF: Covid cases in Year 3

Dear parents

I wrote to you this week about the concerns related to high Covid numbers in Year 3.

In order to try and break this cycle we put additional protective measures in place for the Year 3 classes, however the number of confirmed cases over the past 2 days has continued to rise.

I have contacted the office of the Director of Public Health in Croydon to explore whether we need to move to remote learning for the whole Year 3 cohort for a limited period in order to break the chain of transmission. Their advice is that attendance restrictions should only be used as a last resort and the overarching objective is to maximise the number of children in face-to face education and minimise any disruption, in a way that best manages the COVID-19 risk. They do not support the school introducing a 'circuit break' for the Year 3 classes.

This means that we will continue with our current protective measures which include:

- Staff carrying out lateral Flow tests at least twice a week
- Additional cleaning of tables during the day and after school
- New lunchtime procedures and new classroom layout
- Deep clean of Year 3 classes each weekend
- Ventilating classes as much as possible- send in additional layers for children to wear in class

Children may wear:

- Thermal under clothes.
- T-shirts / long or short sleeved under their shirts / polo shirts/ pinafore dresses
- An additional outer layer such as a fleece, gilet or hoodie- to be worn over their school uniform (these should be plain black, navy blue or dark grey (no logos or stripes/patterns). These are for wearing in classroom only (and can be kept on their peg in school) and will not be worn outside in the playgrounds. children are still required to bring their normal school coats to wear while outside.

In addition, all extended school clubs for Year 3 will be cancelled next week. We will reschedule these missed clubs at a later date and when it is safe to do so.

We will, of course continue to monitor rates of infections in Year 3 and liaise with Croydon Public Health where we feel it is required.

As previously stated:

St Thomas Becket Catholic Primary School is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (registered number 8163424)  
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We would ask that you monitor children for symptoms of Covid and do not send children to school if they appear unwell. Carry out a lateral flow test as soon as possible and, if positive, take them for a PCR.

**Carol Service:** Our Year 3 children are scheduled to lead the acting roles in our forthcoming carol service in school. Currently we still plan for this to happen but Year 3 participation will be dependent on the number of Covid cases in this year group over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely

Noel Campbell

Head teacher