



Telephone: 0191 5285094 E-mail: [office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk) Visit at: [www.stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk)

## **We are an Operation Encompass School**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are extremely proud as a school that we have managed to get through the first half term without any confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the school both in pupils and staff. A large part of this is down to you, our parents, for being so supportive and following all the procedures and rules we have put in place, no matter how inconvenient they have been, and also for following government guidance. We are extremely thankful for this as it makes our job so much easier and the last thing we want is for your child's learning to be disrupted. Please continue working with us next half-term by continuing to adhere to the current rules and procedures and any new ones we may need to introduce.

**During the half term break whilst school is shut, it is still essential that if any child develops any Covid-19 symptoms and tests positive you must notify us by email immediately on [office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk) so that we can contact Public Health and also ensure that children in relevant year groups isolate as per current government guidelines.**

We recognise that there have been changes to our normal school policies due to the current situation we find ourselves in. We want to assure parents that once this pandemic is over our policies will revert back to our existing ones. In the meantime we will endeavour to add addendums to those policies affected such as the uniform, attendance and behaviour. However, please note every decision and changes we make are weighed up and done with the children's best interest at heart, as we have to balance child welfare against the risks Covid-19 presents. We have tried to make these changes gradually so they can be done as safely as possible and will continue doing this moving forward.

Our staff want to reassure you that we are doing everything within our power to minimise the risks in school but as you understand we can't fully remove them in their entirety. With this in mind, moving forward in to winter, it is going to be harder to keep all the current procedures in place because as stated before we also have to balance child welfare. We appreciate the weather will be changing and there will be more rain and it will be colder but there is also a need to ensure rooms are adequately ventilated. Therefore we ask that after half term children come dressed appropriately with school jumpers and cardigans and jackets for when they go outside as well as bringing in a rucksack or drawstring bag (their usual PE one would be fine) with another pair of appropriate footwear and a spare pair of socks in case their feet get wet when coming in to school. We will label all the bags and quarantine them for 72 hours before putting them on their pegs for the remainder of the half term. These shoes are to stay in school and children will bring them home when we break up for Christmas. Children may wear gloves and hats (no scarves due to safety) as the weather gets colder but please note gloves will have to be kept in their coat pockets and will need to be removed and hands sanitised before entering the building. If umbrellas are used whilst waiting to get in to school we ask that parents take them home with them. For children that walk to school we will organise for them to be kept in the foyer and children can collect them again as the leave.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and all your support this half term- you have all been fantastic! Have a good and safe half term and we will see the children back at school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Yours Sincerely  
Mrs Steele  
Acting Headteacher



