



**15<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I trust that you remain safe and well. Firstly, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support throughout these difficult times and for adopting the changes that we have implemented at school to keep our school community safe and well.

As you are aware the government have released guidance allowing families to meet two other households over the Christmas period from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 to Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2020. We kindly ask everyone to consider their choices very carefully. Public Health England suggest it is still best to minimise a visit to others if you have higher risk family, particularly if elderly, or with chronic illnesses.

However, if you are to meet, please consider keeping the windows open, and maintain social distancing and contact. Please kindly avoid meeting any more than three other household as per government guidelines.

If anyone in your household has any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (a fever, a new, persistent cough or a loss of your sense of taste or smell), please contact the school immediately, book a test and then follow the guidance on what to do next based on the result of that test. Further information is available on our school website:

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/npsw/page/?title=Coronavirus+Update&pid=777>

Letting us know about positive tests will still be important over the Christmas holidays as other children and staff may need to isolate, due to being in contact at school in the days leading up to the Christmas holidays. Therefore, should your child or a member of your household test positive for the coronavirus over the Christmas please notify the school using this email address [Enquiries.npsw@nishkamschools.org](mailto:Enquiries.npsw@nishkamschools.org) or telephone the school number on: 01902 537970 selecting option 1.

When contacting the school about positive test results please provide the following information:

- The date symptoms started (or if there were no symptoms)
- The date the test was taken (not the date you received the result)
- The date your child's self-isolation ends

The school will then follow the guidance from Public Health England and contact families where appropriate.

Please note that the last day of term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020, School will be closing at **12:45pm** for pupils dropped off at 08:45am and **13:00pm** for pupils dropped off at 09:00am. There will be no provision onsite to look after children after this time. Pupils and siblings should be collected at the same points as they would be on any normal day.

## Lateral Flow Testing

The Civic Centre has been transformed into a mass lateral flow testing centre to provide asymptomatic (without symptoms) testing for Covid-19 with results in 30-60 minutes.

**The testing centre is open 7 days a week, providing testing Monday to Friday 8.00am-7.00pm and weekends 10.00am-6.00pm.**

**There is no requirement to book an appointment**, those wanting to get a test can simply arrive, register on site and get tested by providing a nasal and throat swab. **Free parking** is provided for those accessing a test at the adjacent, St Peter's car park (WV1 1LY).

Adults and children over 2 years old are able to access a test, providing they are not displaying Covid-19 symptoms – new continuous cough, temperature or loss/change to the sense of taste or smell. Where this is the case, they will be signposted to a symptomatic test site locally.

The site also does not provide testing for those that have been asked to isolate due to identified close contact with someone who has tested positive. Current local guidance is that anyone who has been required to self-isolate as part of a bubble closure should complete their self-isolation period and should not access the LFT site as a means of returning to school earlier than planned.

Those that test positive by a lateral flow test will be required to self-isolate for 10 days, along with members of their household, and will be required to get a confirmatory Covid-19 test (PCR test) from one of the City's other test sites. Please contact the school as detailed above. Those that test negative can continue with their normal routine. As a reminder, there are 50 PCR test slots a day at the Faulkland Street test centre, that can be accessed by just turning up.

Regular mass testing is one of the key weapons in the fight against Covid-19 with the aim being to provide convenient, accessible and frequent access to testing to identify and isolate positive cases earlier, preventing onward transmission. It is hoped that testing on this scale will drive down the City's infection rates.

I would like to wish you a safe and restful break over this festive period and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new year.

Your sincerely



**Mr H S Dhanjal**  
**Headteacher**