



9 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

TEST, TRACE AND PROTECT

American author Robert Collier said, "Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." At the end of our fifth week of the term, I wanted to offer my gratitude to all those whose efforts have resulted in such a smooth beginning to the school year. In particular, I would like to thank our pupils who have shown great enthusiasm and maturity during a period of time which has been anything but 'normal'.

Cardiff residents have now been subject to local restrictions for 2 weeks yet, despite these measures, COVID-19 infection rates continue to rise. Today, the city has an infection rate of 148.8 new cases per 100,000 people. Thankfully, St Teilo's has remained fully open to all pupils with no outbreaks of the disease to date. Not only this, the school is operating smoothly and as planned, with a full complement of staff. To quote Nelson Mandela, "It always seems impossible until it's done."

As winter draws closer, however, we must be realistic about the possibility of partial school closures; it is now very much a matter of 'when' and not 'if'. Although partial closure is inconvenient and disruptive, it is necessary to keep people safe and well. We can all play our part in keeping the school open by following these simple rules:

- **Follow public health guidelines – do not mix with those outside your household;**
- **Do not come to school if you or a member of your family has COVID symptoms;**
- **Ensure that those with symptoms receive a test; and**
- **If in doubt, ask.**

I would like to remind you that all COVID-related queries, concerns or absences should be reported directly to me by email at headteacher@stteilos.com. This is essential in helping us to track cases of children and staff who are unwell, ensuring that those who need tests have them and those who need to remain at home do so. At the time of writing this letter, the school has tracked 194 cases in total. I thought you may wish to see the details of these cases and I have therefore included the data in **Appendix 1** for your information.

It is said that 'in a world where you can be anything, be kind'. Now, perhaps more than ever, we must work positively together to provide our children with continuity in their education and care for one another. In so doing, we also need to take the time to practice self-care. Please do be kind to yourself, staying connected with family and friends and reaching out to us if we can be of any help or support. You may wish to follow this self-care advice from Public Health Wales: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/how-are-you-doing/>.

'Eye on Wales'

If you did not manage to hear the BBC Radio Wales 'Eye on Wales' documentary which provided a 'sneak peek' into our successful reopening, you can listen online here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000mzgg>

Admissions 2021

Applications for admission to Year 7 for September 2021 are now open. Please remember, for an application to be considered complete, you must name St Teilo's as one of your preferences at <https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/> and apply online directly to the school at <http://www.stteilos.com/about/admissions/>.

And so, we march on in faith! I expect to hear shortly about arrangements for assessment and examinations this summer and will write to you again with a full update. In the meantime, if you've missed my previous two letters for the Autumn term, you can find a copy here:

Letter 1: <http://www.stteilos.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Letter-1-14-September-2020.pdf>

Letter 2: <http://www.stteilos.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Letter-2-25-September-2020.pdf>

With every prayer,

Mr I Loynd
Headteacher

Please read the appendix on the following page.

APPENDIX 1: TRACKED CASES

Pupils

Tracked cases (pupils)	Impact on school	Total cases (as of 09/10/20)
Children who have had a negative COVID test result	Nil	82
Children who live with somebody who has had a negative COVID test result	Nil	83
Children who have had a positive COVID result but no close contacts	Nil	1
Children who live with somebody who has had a positive COVID result but no close contacts	Nil	6
Children who have been abroad and quarantined upon return	Nil	3
Children who have isolated as a precautionary measure	Nil	7
Children who have had a positive COVID result with close contacts	Partial closure and self-isolation	0

Staff

Tracked case (staff)	Impact on school	Total cases (as of 09/10/20)
Staff who have had a negative COVID test result	Nil	4
Staff who live with somebody who has had a negative COVID test result	Nil	6
Staff who have had a positive COVID result but no close contacts	Nil	2
Staff who live with somebody who has had a positive COVID result but no close contacts	Nil	0
Staff who have had a positive COVID result with close contacts	Partial closure and self-isolation	0