



Bembridge Church of England Primary School

'Learning to love God, one another and ourselves'



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas Events at Bembridge CE Primary

Yesterday the Head teachers on the Isle of Wight received a letter from the Director of Public Health with some additional guidance. As a school, our aim is to hold as many of our usual Christmas events as possible, whilst keeping our pupils, staff and their families safe.

The letter stated "The following localised guidance is offered for events such as nativity plays. While indoor events can continue under current Government guidelines, education setting event organisers are encouraged to consider alternative formats such as outdoor or remote (broadcast online) performances."

With this statement in mind, we have decided to hold the Christmas Fair outside this year to become a Christmas Market.

With regards to the Christmas Production and the Nativity Service at Holy Trinity, we have two plans to action in relation to the number of positive cases of Covid-19 within our school. Please note these plans may have to be changed in line with Government Guidance.

Plan A – Positive cases of Covid-19 remain low in school and do not meet the threshold*

We will hold the performances and service as planned with the capacities currently agreed. We encourage all parents and carers to take the following actions:

- Do not attend the performance if you have any symptoms of Covid-19 and book a PCR Test
- Get vaccinated if eligible
- Take twice weekly Lateral Flow tests and test before coming to the performance
- Wear a mask when inside the building (unless medically exempt)
- Wash or sanitise your hands when entering the building

As a school, we will:

- Ensure hand sanitiser is available for all entering the school
- Ensure the hall has all windows open for ventilation
- Monitor air levels with the CO2 monitors and open doors for further ventilation, if required

Plan B – Positive cases of Covid-19 increase in the school and the threshold is met*

We will hold the events in school but there will be no visitors. We will record the events and share via Vimeo for all parents and carers to watch. This may involve pupils returning to bubbles and recording sections separately.

We will record the dress rehearsal of the show and upload the unedited clips on Vimeo. We will allow Maurice (official videographer) into school to record the Thursday performance at distance from the children. The DVD will be available to purchase.

We will refund the cost of the tickets or you can donate the money to the school fund.

The Nativity Service will be held in school and recorded and shared on Vimeo.

**Threshold descriptor:*

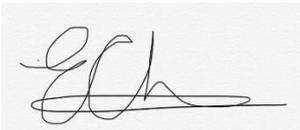
• 5 children, pupils or staff or more, who are likely to have mixed closely and test positive for COVID-19 within a 10 day period

We understand how much the Christmas celebrations mean to all our pupils, parents, carers and staff but we have to be prepared *as always* to change to our contingency plan in order to combat an outbreak in school.

Unfortunately, many other schools are already facing these tough restrictions and are not able to invite their parents into school. We ask for your prayers and hope that we may be able to go ahead with Plan A.

What stays as a positive is that the children will perform and have their Nativity Service even if we have to change the restrictions on how and who is attending.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Chambers
Headteacher

