

Dilton Marsh Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents/carers

Many thanks for your responses to the questionnaire about the recent School Closure. We were the first school in the Trust and Westbury to have a Positive Covid case and will take this opportunity to learn and implement improvements on how we would respond to an event like this in the future. Your feedback has been invaluable in order to improve procedures if/when this happens again.

In total we received 67 responses, many of which were positive. We have reviewed all the returns and have summarised the common themes and our response on how we have improved a process or will deal differently if we have positive Covid case within the school. All your questions are important to us so if you feel they have not been addressed please contact me and I will respond directly to you in more detail.

On a scale of 1-5 please answer the questions below - 1 being the poorest. How would you rate the quality of communication during the recent closure/partial closure of the school?

Average score = 3.56

On a scale of 1-5 please answer the questions below - 1 being the poorest. How would you rate the support you received during the school closure and period of time that your child was absent from school

Average score = 3.54

On a scale of 1-5 please answer the questions below - 1 being the poorest. How would you rate the quality of remote learning during the recent closure/partial closure of the school? E.g. Was it pitched at the right level, was there sufficient work, was there sufficient variety?

Average score = 3.52

On a scale of 1-5 please answer the questions below - 1 being the poorest. How well did your child settle on return to school

Average score = 4.3

Would you have liked the opportunity to have asked questions to the Head/Executive Leaders via Zoom/Microsoft TEAMS?

More Details





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Key theme	Points raised	Trust and School's response
Initial information sharing	Anxiety for children/families when dates changed Knee Jerk Reaction	The safety of the children and adults at the forefront of every decision made. An initial decision was made and was adjusted following meetings between the Trust, school and Public Health England. The Trust were initially trying to establish the extent of the potential transmission. That proved quite challenging. The DFE were not helpful or able to provide clarity on what we needed to do. When we did manage to get in touch with PHESW there was much greater
	Use of email as only means of contact	clarity on how we needed to move forward. This resulted in delays and conflicting messages. To enable quicker messaging we have invested in the Text messaging service so we can inform you that we have sent out an urgent email. This will then give you the opportunity to phone the school if you have not received the information.
Communication during home learning due to self-isolation or classes closed	Lack of contact from school	On the first day of closure each class teacher contacted all parents through either the class email account or through Tapestry (Lime class only). Throughout the closure direct communication was available through this method. We are aware that some parents were unaware or unable to access this so the Trust are exploring alternative communication methods for all schools. Parents of vulnerable children or children with Education, health, care plans were phoned individually. Others were not contacted directly unless there were issues or contact was requested. Message through E Schools available.
Adults in school	Clarity about bursting bubbles Why couldn't we use supply teachers rather than	In future, if children are away for extended periods we would make weekly contact with the family through email or by phone if possible. Many of our staff have roles to play outside of their designated classrooms. Wherever possible we minimise moving between classes within the school day. If staff do move between bubbles they will be wearing face masks when working with the children. Part of the Headteachers role is to promote excellent teaching and learning and support good behaviour across the school therefore it is necessary to visit all classrooms. Risk is minimised by the wearing of face masks alongside keeping space and washing hands. Other teachers within a class will wear face shields. Unfortunately supply teachers are not always available or available for 5 or 6 days at a time.
	closing the bubbles?	The decision was made to close the bubble rather than having to send the class home on odd days due to lack of staff. In addition, the introduction of additional adults can increase the risk of transmission.

	Return of Mrs Hibbs	Mrs Hibbs returned to school 10 days after first displaying symptoms. This adhered to guidance from Test and Trace and Public Health England (South West).
Home learning	Print out of home learning packs	Due to the decision to close being late in school day it was physically impossible to print out 200 sets of work. For those of you who requested paper copies these were printed out and available in school from Friday, when it re-opened.
	Use of PDF/word etc	Other formats for Home learning are available on request. Often the files are too large to email so we make them available on the school website without needing to log into the individual ESchools class page. If you do require a different format please email the class teacher to request this.
	Difficulty of work set, particularly with regard to the Time units. Differentiation	'Time' was chosen as it is taught in in every year group from Reception to Year 6and parents have resources and knowledge to teach at home.
	Use of Oak Academy	There was mixed feedback about Oak academy so we are currently reviewing our home learning offer. The government advice has changed since Lockdown with it now being mandatory for learning to be developmental rather than revision activities.
		As part of our review we are preparing home learning folders which will be kept at home. These will include a work book and activities for children to complete whilst waiting for the main learning to be sent home. These will provide a stop gap for first day or short term absence.
		We are currently exploring using online teaching to support learning at home. During the shutdown we were using Loom to ensure that children at home were receiving similar input to those in school. We hope to use this, along with live sessions on TEAMS in future. We are currently creating TEAMS log in's for all children which we will distribute after half term.
Use of social	Some parents expressed their upset at comments	Although these are private groups, not monitored in any way by the school, we do ask that
media platforms	left on either class pages or on Social media	parents show respect and support each other and the school.
Safety around	Entrance into school	We have reversed the entrance and exit at the school day in response to requests. Several
school site	Adults wearing masks	parents asked about insisting that all parents wear masks on pick up and drop off. We would ask that if you feel more comfortable in a mask these are worn. At all time please maintain the 2m distance.