



Maintaining a COVID safe environment in school

I would like to thank the school community for their support in managing the challenging situation we have currently at St. Aidan's with an outbreak of COVID cases.

In my first edition of Headlines, I shared that we were looking forward to introducing some elements of 'normal' school life; alas these were very short lived.

We are currently following our outbreak management plans and I will continue to communicate any changes that this will bring for your children.

Please do not send children into school if they are unwell, but please book a PCR test for them via the link below. The testing centre at Alexandra Palace has now closed, so the centre at the Sobell Centre is closest for most St. Aidan's families.

[Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

If your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive in school, then you will receive an e mail from school asking for your child to be tested.

A parent has raised a query after being told by a local testing centre that children should be off school regardless of symptoms until a result is received. I raised this with the Haringey Public Health team, who have replied, 'The guidance is very clear on this and you can refer the parents to this blog post on DfE's gov uk website:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/09/08/pupils-only-need-to-isolate-if-they-have-symptoms-of-covid-19-or-if-they-test-positive/>

It is good practice to limit contact with others as much as possible (especially anyone who is vulnerable) while you await a PCR test result as a close contact, but as per the guidance children can continue to attend school.'

It is very important that we are informed of any positive COVID tests in children as soon as possible. If you receive notification that your child has received a positive test during school hours e.g. 8am until 4pm, please call the school office on 020 8340 2352. Outside of these times, please text or leave a voicemail to 07946 174469, stating the name and class of your child.

Harvest Festival donations request

On Thursday 30th September, children in Key Stages 1 and 2 will be celebrating Harvest Festival with a virtual service with Father Patrick

Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food grown on the land. Harvest Festival reminds Christians of all the good things God gives them. This makes them want to share with others who are not so fortunate.

This year, we would be most grateful for donations of:

- Toiletries e.g.: shaving gel, razors, shower gel, soap, toothpaste; toothbrushes and flannels
- Tinned fruit, vegetables, soups or other non-perishable goods. Please make sure these are in date.

After the food and toiletries have been blessed at the Holy Trinity Church Harvest Festival on the Sunday following our St. Aidan's service, the food will be given to the Holy Trinity Church food bank and the toiletries will be used by homeless guests at the Haringey Churches Winter Night Shelter.

We will be collecting your donations in the playground before and after school from tomorrow until the day of our service.

INSET day, Monday 27th September

A reminder that Monday 27th September is an INSET day and the school is closed to all children.

Thank you Claire!

Congratulations to Claire Hollington who completed a 100km sponsored walked along the Thames path on Sunday 11th September and has so far raised £1,250 for St Aidan's PSA.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/claire-hollingtonstaidabs>

Are you worried about your child's development, learning, emotional well-being or behaviour?

The Haringey Educational Psychology Service are running free sessions for parents to enable you to share your concerns and can signpost support if required.

Sessions are available via the Markfield. For further details, including how to book a session, please see the flyer in this edition of Headlines.

Update from the PSA

The PSA (Parent & School Association) welcomes everyone back to school. During 2020-2021 we managed to run some great fundraising events despite not being able to see each other due to Covid. This year we are hoping to be able to have more in person events, focusing on bringing our

community back together and celebrating life at St Aidan's.

PSA meeting, 2nd October 7.30pm

We are holding our AGM on Monday 4th October, 7.30pm. If you have any issues you would like raised, please get in touch with your class rep.

Fundraising

We have got off to a fantastic start already this year! Please join us in sending a massive thank you to Claire Hollington who has raised £1250 for the PSA doing the Thames Path Challenge sponsored walk.

A huge effort, in just shy of 25 hours Claire walked the 100km from Putney Bridge to Henley-on-Thames.

Thanks Claire, we really appreciate your sleepless night and sore feet!

PSA Reps

Your Class Rep is the person/s who sends PSA information out to parents about upcoming events.

They often play a big part in organising the activities themselves, but without the support of the wider St Aidan's parent group we cannot run things like the Summer Fair, Curry night etc. We need your help!

Please get in touch with your current class Reps if you have a fundraising idea or wish to become more involved.

2nd Hand uniform

Have your kids outgrown their St Aidan's uniform?

Please bring any reasonable condition uniform to the office by Monday 27th September, we will be holding a sale shortly.

Tea -Towels

We still have a number of Portrait Tea-Towels available for Key stage 1 & 2.

Login to your SchoolMoney app and order directly from the Shop.

St Aidan's PSA Facebook group.

If you would like to join our Facebook group, please search for **St Aidan's VC Primary PSA**. Besides being a noticeboard for the PSA, we also encourage local news, events, wanted and for sale ads.

Have a look if you are Facebook friendly (we know not everyone is a fan, but so far it has been a pretty useful method of getting information out!)

After-school clubs' allocation

We have received a larger than usual request for after school clubs this term. As you will appreciate, there are fixed numbers of places for each club, so some children have been disappointed.

The allocation of after-school clubs has been agreed by our Care and Communication committee of the Governing Body. If clubs are over-subscribed, places are first allocated to those children who have previously attended the club. This is in order to allow children to develop their skills and knowledge over a

period of time. Places are then given to children who are entitled to Free School Meals, and are then allocated randomly. I hope this provides clarity to those who have been disappointed not to get a place.

Nursery places

There are some places still available in our school Nursery, where we offer places for children for the term after they are 3 years old. Please contact the school office, or contact Joy Banfield in the Nursery if you would like more details.



On Sunday 3 October, London Marathon is returning to its central London course. On the same day, up to 50,000 people around the world will take on 26.2 miles in the virtual event.

As the children know from my recent assembly on *growth mindset*, I am running my first marathon on the London course on 3rd October. I am running for a charity which means a great deal to me, further details can be found [here](#).

The children at St. Aidan's will be joining 500,000 children across the UK by completing 2.6 miles in school during the month of October to raise money for the school. We will be sharing further details soon.

Garden volunteers

We have a great team of parents who volunteer to help in our school garden, which is a wonderful space, valued by all at St. Aidan's.

We are looking to strengthen this team, so if you have some time to be able to help in the garden, please contact the school office. Parents who are new to St. Aidan's or existing parents are all very welcome!

Parkland Dragons football- a message from Alice Clay

A number of children in Y3 and 4 play for a football team- the Parkland Dragons. This grew out of the Stroud Green Lions team led by Henri Koury until he relocated to the US. Most of the children go to St. Aidan's. With the help of parents and a volunteer coach, we are now affiliated to the FA and entering a mixed U10 team in the Camden and Islington Youth league. It is a lovely group and our ethos is as much about fun and friendship as football. We practise in Finsbury Park on a Saturday morning.

A number of St. Aidan's parents with children in younger years have been making enquiries about football opportunities for them, and this notice is for

you! We do not have coaching capacity currently to be able to run another team. However, if any parents are interested in finding or training as a coach, I would be more than happy to assist with the setting up of a younger team or teams under the banner of the Dragons and assisting with affiliation and set-up complexities. Please contact me on aofclay@live.co.uk if interested.



Free Consultations with an Educational Psychologist

Are you worried about your child's development, learning, emotional well-being or behaviour?

Then book a **free 40 minute session** with an educational psychologist from Haringey Educational Psychology Service. We can talk through your concerns with you, help you make a plan of action and signpost you to sources of help and support.



Educational psychologists (EPs) are qualified specialists who offer support and advice to schools, early years settings, voluntary groups, parents, carers, children and young people on a range of issues. This includes supporting children with disabilities, learning difficulties or social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

For more information on EPs: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer/5-15-year-olds/educational-psychology-service>



Where: [Markfield, Markfield Road](#)
London, N15 4RB

When: 10am – 12pm on September 22nd, October 20th, November 17th, December 8th

Or by phone: Week beginning September 20th, October 18th, November 15th, December 6th

If you have any queries or would like to book a phone or in person consultation, please contact:

Family Admin at [Markfield](#) on:
Tel: 020 3667 5233
or email:
familyadmin@markfield.org.uk

