

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE AS OF 7TH JANUARY 2021
- "STAY AT HOME!"

Dear Parents,

Today you will have received a copy of a letter from David Parr, Chief Executive of Halton Borough Council. The letter has been sent as a result of the grave situation in which Halton now finds itself. Unfortunately, over 30% of St Bert's children are still accessing school and we are supposed to be closed; the Government suggest 10% or less. We need to reduce the school population to bring down the transmission rate.

We all know staying at home saves lives. As a school we don't want to refuse to support you as a family but please consider your individual circumstances carefully. Ask yourselves, "Could we organise things differently in order for our children to stay at home and keep safe?" Even if you are a key worker, could you speak to your employer about working from home? If you work at home it is taken as said that you will use your common sense and keep your child/children at home where they are safe.

Some parents may be worried about getting behind with school work. This will not be the case as children's learning in school is now being reflected on-line. Admittedly, some parents may find home schooling more difficult than others - don't worry it's better to be doing a mediocre job of home schooling than increasing the risk of transmission.

We are at the point of overwhelming the NHS - the demand for beds is now exceeding the need. Imagine someone you love is

extremely poorly and being turned away from a hospital because there isn't a space!

Please, if you have a child taking a key worker place at St Berteline's school, reconsider your options. This is a very serious, life threatening situation, worse than the initial crisis; each and every one of us needs to be able to say we made a sacrifice for the benefit of us all. If every school can reduce their pupil population to 10% being 'closen' will have an impact on this pandemic.

Thank you for reading this plea and allowing me to share my growing concerns. Keep yourself and your loved ones safe!

God bless!

Julie Barron
Headteacher