

New Siblands Primary
Gillingstool
Thornbury
South Gloucestershire
BS35 2EG
Tel. 01454 866754
DfE School Number 803/7031
enquiries@newsiblands.org.uk
www.newsiblands.org.uk



New Siblands School
"Achievement, Belonging, Celebration"

Valuing every child through fostering independence,
inclusion, trust, respect and support

Headteacher: Ms Carrie Osmond

New Siblands Secondary
Easton Hill Road
Thornbury
South Gloucestershire
BS35 2JU
Tel. 01454 862888

Thursday 11th February,

Re: COVID reporting in half-term and school reopening announcements

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a term where you are all experiencing reduced onsite provision or supported home learning for your children, we would like to extend our thanks to you all for the very positive feedback we have been receiving about how we are supporting you and your children. Whilst the situation is not ideal for New Siblands pupils, we have been able to respond more quickly and make improvements to our offer since the first lockdown in March. We are pleased to have been able to offer you the support you need at a very challenging time.

Half-term

There will be no supported home learning or calls from school staff over half-term. Free school meals vouchers will be issued for families who are entitled to benefits-related free school meals. If you experience any difficulties with the vouchers, please contact Natasha Kilminster on enquiries@newsiblands.org.uk

Reporting cases of COVID in half term

Please see the poster '*Half-term guide for parents reporting COVID cases*', which explains what to do if your child tests positive for COVID during half-term. Reporting is particularly important for pupils that have attended the onsite provision, as school contacts would need to self-isolate.

School reopening

As you will be aware, the government has indicated that the earliest date that schools will re-open is March 8th. This means that we will not be making any changes to the provision immediately after half term. However, we do expect that announcements will be made on 22nd February that will provide further clarity on this, and we will keep you updated of any changes. Thank you for the patience and resilience you have shown as you juggle the many demands of life in a lockdown. Please let us know if you need us to signpost you to support for anything you are struggling with.

Winter Grant Scheme

The Winter Grant scheme aims to help meet immediate needs and really support families who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating, sewerage and sanitary purposes), or other related essentials.

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The financial support could include more practical items such purchase of blankets or more expensive items such as boiler / oven repairs or perhaps even a replacement oven if the existing one is broken beyond safe use / repair.

Parents and carers should contact CAB on 03444 111 444 or the Council on 0800 953 7778 Quoting Winter Grant funding.

We hope that you all remain safe and well during this period, and we look forward to seeing all pupils again, as soon as it is safe to do so.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carrie Osmond'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carrie Osmond

Headteacher