



St Patrick's RC Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess

We follow in Christ's footsteps

Monday 8th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Last week, a couple of letters were sent home regarding Teams protocols. We have noticed today there still seems to be some uncertainty regarding expectations - particular around use of cameras.

During TEAMS sessions, pupils' cameras should be switched on so that all children are visible. This is so the teacher can interact readily with pupils, ask and answer questions, motivate accordingly and monitor behaviour. Children's phones should be out of reach – put away safely by parents.

These are basic rules for the use of Teams in school, as the teacher needs to see pupils at all times. Last week, we had to investigate a serious incident involving a pupil videoing a teacher. We were all very shocked that this had occurred and it was particularly upsetting for the member of staff involved.

We became aware of this very quickly, parents were informed, consequences were immediately put in place and the situation was resolved.

As we shared with you, school records all Teams sessions, but they are automatically deleted after 20 days. No other recordings are allowed under any circumstances.

Teams teaching, allowing contact between staff and pupils, is extremely important in this current situation but safeguarding is always our first concern and we aim to protect our staff as well as, of course, our pupils.

Teams is a new way of communicating for many people, but it is important to reiterate to everyone that the rules need to be followed by all. It is therefore very important that these are revisited, read over and shared within families.

May I reassure all parents/carers again that the incident has been dealt with and we aim to move forward positively.

Please view the check-in and Teams teaching session timetable on our website so that your pupils can become fully involved.

Kind regards

Mrs J Burgess
Headteacher

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