



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

A SCIENCE SPECIALIST COLLEGE

HEADTEACHER: MS MELISSA L ROBERTS, BA (HONS), MA, NPQH

MLR/hr/COVID-19
12th November 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I am sure that you are well aware that there is a legal duty to self-isolate for everybody in any household who has any symptoms of COVID-19. Unfortunately, there have been a few cases recently where parents have sent students into school even though someone in the household has symptoms, or even when they have been waiting on a test result. As a result we have had to send scores of students' home as close contacts in cases where this could have been avoided.

The guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

You will know that we have had a number of cases now, both students and staff and it is now clear that some people, and in particular younger people, are experiencing early symptoms outside of the three most typical symptoms. For our families these have included chill, fatigue, headaches and sore throat. Whilst all of these can be put down to winter bugs, it seems they can also be early warnings of infection with COVID-19 and I urge all families to take marginal symptoms seriously:

- Keep the whole household at home from first symptoms until there is a conclusive test result
- Get the person with symptoms tested
- Keep the person with symptoms apart from other members of the household
- Follow the advice from the NHS and the test and trace service

If anyone in your household develops COVID-19 symptoms after their isolation period has ended, they should [arrange to have a test](#) and everyone in the household should follow the steps in this guidance again, even if they have had a positive COVID-19 test in the past.

I urge all parents to read the guidance and follow it to the letter. Any student who is self-isolating will be able to log into Microsoft Teams and access live lessons, recorded lessons or work. Where teachers are too unwell to set work, we are trying to ensure that someone in the department is setting work. Any enquiries about remote learning can be sent to Miss Knowles via remotelearning@stjosephsmail.com.

Thank you for your cooperation with this important aspect of our work to keep students and families safe.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M Roberts
Headteacher

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