



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

A SCIENCE SPECIALIST COLLEGE

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

MLR/hr/Tier 3 level

2nd December 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I am sure you have been following the announcements nationally with regards to Stoke and Staffordshire moving on to a Tier 3 level. This means that, wherever you live, your children are in an area classified as Very High Alert. I know that we will all worry that, as we move out of a second lockdown, infection rates might begin to rise and I am asking that you continue to follow revised guidance. We do not wish to put anyone in a situation where they would need to isolate over Christmas.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS A CASE IN THE LAST WEEK?

The government is telling schools that we must be "on call" until Christmas Eve to undertake contact tracing and isolation messages for any students who are in contact with a confirmed case in the last week of term; headteachers will be contacted by Track and Trace.

Obviously, we don't want anyone to have to isolate over Christmas and miss family time, so we will be urging all students who are in school in the last week:

- Be as careful as possible with hand sanitising and social distancing.
- If anyone in the family displays any symptoms at all, even marginal symptoms, don't send your child to school and call the absence line.
- Isolating students are marked with an x code (which does not affect their attendance percentage).

6TH FORM REMOTE LEARNING

6th form students will not be in school during the last week. They will undertake remote learning from Monday 14th - Wednesday 16th December inclusive. The only exception will be those Y13 students who have compulsory chemistry and biology practical assessments. The 6th form will begin their Christmas break on Thursday 17th December.

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS ISOLATING IN THE LAST WEEK?

A number of parents have asked what will happen if their child is isolating at home at the end of term. Please be assured that remote learning will continue with online lessons or work on Microsoft Teams until the morning of Thursday 17th December, which is Christmas lunch day. Friday 18th December is a half-day and school will close at 12.30pm. Work can be submitted on Teams or via email.

I will write to parents next week with information on arrangements for the new term. In the meantime, thank you so much for all the support you are showing to the school at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M Roberts
Headteacher

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