



St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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Registered Charity Number: 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Y9

I write to inform you that we have had a further 2 positive COVID cases in Year 9. They most recent was last in school on Wednesday 4th November.

We have undertaken the process of tracking who the students came into contact with in the 48 hours preceding the symptoms and unfortunately the way that the timetable works, all but a few students would be a possible contact of one of our three positive cases and those who haven't been a direct contact are likely to have mixed with Y9 who have been. **After receiving advice from Public Health we have reluctantly made the decision to ask the whole of Year 9 to isolate for the full 14 days from possible contact with our latest student. This precaution is to prevent the chance of any community transmission. Under the new guidance from this week your child's isolation period will end at the start of the 14th day of possible contact with the infected case. You child can therefore come out of isolation on Wednesday 18th November and can return to school on this day.**

I understand that this news might be concerning but we have been taking measures to minimise the risk of possible infection spread. All desks are sanitised before use and each room undergoes a thorough deep clean each evening. A welfare cleaner sanitises door handles/toilets facilities etc. during the school day and I can confirm that the two students who tested positive were very diligent in the wearing of a face covering. Our current record suggests that our measures in school have been effective at preventing the spread of infection within school. Asking your child to isolate is as a precaution to prevent any community transmission through school and any major disruption for a larger number of students and families.

Please see the following guidance for isolation: [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#) The guidance states: *If you have been informed that your child is a possible contact of a person who has had a positive test result for coronavirus (COVID-19), medical advice is clear: your child must immediately self-isolate at home for 14 days from the date of their last contact with them. There is no requirement for other members of your household to self-isolate unless anyone in your household starts to develop symptoms.* Your child must not go to school and must not leave the home. **Please ensure that your child is not out in the community. This would undermine our efforts to avoid community transmission.**

If you or your child begin to show the above symptoms you must follow the national guidance. For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. However, if you develop symptoms you



must self-isolate at home and arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19. Visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access. **Please inform the school of any positive results by emailing safeguarding@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk.**

During this time of isolation your child will be able to access their learning on line simply by following this link on the school website <https://stjosephsbolton.org.uk/remote-learning/> . Students who have forgotten their login information can access this by emailing munifyrequest@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk,

Isolating is an act of selflessness. I know from personal experience that this can be a frustrating and anxious time. Please explain to your child that although it appears that we can do little to stop the impact of coronavirus, isolating is one small action we can take to prevent further spread of the infection. Please contact Mrs Anderton if you have any concerns about this process. Thank you for your ongoing support in this very challenging time. Please remember the families who are affected in your prayers.

Yours Sincerely

Mr T McCabe (Headteacher)

