



# St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

Chorley New Road | Horwich | Bolton | BL6 6HW

**Telephone:** 01204 697456

**Website:** [www.stjosephsbolton.org.uk](http://www.stjosephsbolton.org.uk) | **Email:** [office@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk)

**Headteacher:** Mr T McCabe | **Deputy Headteachers:** Mrs J Morgan, Mrs N Yorke Robinson | **Chair of Governors:** Mrs P Jones  
**Registered Charity Number:** 1075795 | **Facebook:** St Joseph's R.C. High School **Twitter:** @joeys\_rchs **Instagram:** joeys\_rchs

7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I would like to thank you for your support in what has been a challenging week with so many DfE changes to policy that none of us want to ever see again! Thanks for working with us as we make sense of the situation we all find ourselves in and create a bit of stability for our young people. I just wanted to update you on the work that is going on within school to ensure your child is fully supported during this time.

We have asked all students to check in with their form tutors on a daily basis and they should continue to do so. This will allow them to have a regular point of contact in school and to keep in contact with members of their tutor group.

Members of the Pastoral Team which includes Heads of Year and other members of staff have been contacting home and will continue to do so throughout lockdown to offer support where we can. We have a member of the Pastoral team on duty every day in school and should you need to speak to someone, please do not hesitate to ring Reception and ask to speak to them. This is addition to your child's Head of Year who you may continue to contact via email as previously.

As in the previous lockdown we have re-opened our [togetherapart@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:togetherapart@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk) for any queries of a non-urgent nature. Please let us know if you are experiencing any difficulties. Your comments and suggestions often help us to make improvements to help everyone. We are trying hard to get full engagement with online learning. Please encourage your child to participate in the live elements of learning as well as the independent work. Teachers find it is a much more worthwhile experience when students participate. Like most things in life, the more someone 'gives' the more they get from an experience and the more likely that are to engage in future.

We will continue to use our [safeguarding@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk) but ask that this is only used for urgent safeguarding issues.

We have on our website the wellbeing page and will update it as more resources become available. It can be found at. [Wellbeing Support - St Joseph's R.C. High School \(stjosephsbolton.org.uk\)](http://Wellbeing Support - St Joseph's R.C. High School (stjosephsbolton.org.uk)). We will also use our school Facebook page to update you with other information.

Miss Evans (Pastoral Support) is available in school should anyone need additional support and may be contacted by either yourselves or your child via Epraise. Miss Evans will be organising support groups and contacting students on an individual basis.



Demand for key worker/vulnerable student places in school has increased. We know how important this is for families so we are keen to avoid turning anyone away. We have extended our capacity to its limits in terms of the number of desktops we have in school. We understand that working from an empty home is very difficult for some students and we don't want to remove support for those who need it. We have asked families to consider if perhaps one or two days a week in school might be enough to support their child so that we can help more students.

Our testing centre is fully equipped and staff have been trained. Mr McCabe was our first volunteer 'subject' through on Tuesday and you will be relieved (although not as much as him!) that he tested negative! Some parents are concerned that their child will be made to have a test. Please be assured that we have no plans for this and that consent will always be gained first. We have collected consent from some of our keyworker group but we haven't yet opened up the Centre for mass testing. We are still waiting for assurances over the safety of some aspects of the procedure for mass roll out.

Throughout this challenging time we are working in partnership with yourselves to ensure your young people are supported in any way we can, we appreciate that no 'one size' fits all at this time and things may change, so please do get in touch if you feel there is anything we can do to help.

Yours sincerely

*Nicola Yorke-Robinson*

Nicola Yorke-Robinson

Deputy Headteacher

