



St. Joseph's RC High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

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Headteacher/Pennaeth: Mrs J Jarrett BA(Hons) M.A NPQH

9 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Confirmed case of COVID-19 in Year 7 at St Joseph's RC High School

This afternoon, I was notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in your child's year group. In line with guidance from Welsh Government and advice from Environmental Health and Newport City Council, as an identified contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19, this means that your child, as a member of Year 7, **will now need to self-isolate for 14 days**. We have been advised by Environmental Health that if your child is still well at the end of the 14 day period of isolation, **they can return to school on Wednesday 23 September**. Identifying contacts and asking them to self-isolate for 14 days will reduce the possible spread of COVID-19 from those contacts to their family, friends and wider community.

Self-isolation advice requires your child to stay at home, not to go outdoors to exercise, not to visit shops, family or friends, or to other public spaces. Please do not invite people to your house. Further information on self-isolation can be found in this link: <https://gov.wales/symptoms-and-self-isolation-contact-tracing>

If your child remains well, then the other members of your household do not need to isolate and can continue with their normal activities.

To reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading, there are things that everyone in your family can do to help. These include:

- washing hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- using hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- washing hands as soon as they get home
- covering their mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve (not their hands) when they cough or sneeze
- putting used tissues in the bin immediately and washing hands afterwards

Please be alert for symptoms of COVID-19 in your child, which are:

- a new or continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

If your child develops any of these symptoms, even if they are mild you need to:

- inform the NHS Wales 'Test, Trace and Protect' team

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- book a test for your child, if advised by the NHS Wales 'Test, Trace and Protect' by phoning 119 or through the online portal: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>
- follow the advice provided when your child receives their test result
- phone school on 01633 653110 or email sjhs@newport.gov.uk and let us know that your child is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms and that you have requested a test
- ensure your child remains in self-isolation
- ensure all other household members isolate for 14 days from when your child developed symptoms
- ensure you do not visit a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital but if you require medical advice please contact NHS 111 or telephone your GP; if there is a medical emergency phone 999

If you require medical advice for COVID-19 symptoms or another reason, please inform the healthcare worker that your child is a contact of a case of COVID-19 and in self-isolation

Here are some links if you would like some further information:

NHS Wales 'Test, Trace, Protect': <https://gov.wales/test-trace-protect-coronavirus>

The COVID-19 online symptom checker can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do: <https://gov.wales/check-if-you-need-coronavirus-medical-help>

You are aware of all the measures we have put in place to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19. I want to reassure you that we will continue to be vigilant and do all we can to provide the safest possible environment for our school community.

Year 7 have made such a fantastic start with us and we look forward to welcoming them back soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jarrett
Headteacher

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