



St. Joseph's RC High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

Pencarn Way, Tredegar Park, Newport, S. Wales, NP10 8XH
 Ffordd Pencarn, Parc Tredegar, Casnewydd, De Cymru, NP10 8XH
 Tel/Ffôn: (01633) 653110
 E-mail/E-bost: sjhs@newport.gov.uk www.sjhs.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport twitter.com/sjhsnewport
 Headteacher/Pennaeth: Mrs J Jarrett BA(Hons) M.A NPQH

18 September 2020

Dear Families

As we approach the end of the third week of term, I wanted to write to offer my congratulations to the pupils for such a wonderful start, and to you as families in supporting this transition. All the pupils have been brilliant, showing such maturity and resilience.

Last week, we had a visit from the local authority to review the site arrangements and ensure all the health and safety measures were in place. I am pleased to announce that the local authority was really pleased with the operations of the school and feel that we have implemented all the guidance and health and safety measures as outlined by the Welsh government. What is particularly pleasing is that we can implement the guidelines while offering a full curriculum to the pupils. We will continue to listen to families, staff, and pupils during this time so that we continue to make any necessary improvements. There will be no standing still during the coming months and we appreciate your support.

We recognise that this remains a stressful time for families. A number of you have been in contact with us requesting guidance related to illnesses and absence. We felt that the table below may provide support in this key area.

Covid-19 Related Pupil Absence - A Quick Reference Guide

What do I do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
My child has Covid-19 symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · High temperature This means they feel hot to touch on your chest or your back. · New continuous cough This means coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 continuous coughing episodes in 24 hours. · A loss or change to their sense of taste or smell. This means they have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL · Symptomatic child to isolate for 10 days. · Isolate the rest of the household for 14 days (a household is all adults and children living in the same property or your extended household if you have created one). · Parent to arrange to get child tested. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Test comes back negative. · If no test is taken, child must remain off school for 10 days, whether or not they are feeling well before that point. · If no test is taken, other household contacts must continue to isolate for 14 days, whether or not they are feeling well.

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<p>My child has been sent home from school with Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Collect all siblings from St Joseph's RC High School and any other schools. · Symptomatic child to isolate for 10 days. · Isolate the rest of the household for 14 days (a household is all adults and children living in the same property or your extended household if you have created one). · Parent to arrange to get child tested. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Test comes back negative. · If no test is taken, child must remain off school for 10 days, whether or not they are feeling well before that point. · If no test is taken, other household contacts must continue to isolate for 14 days, whether or not they are feeling well.
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. · Contact school to agree a date for return. Minimum of 10 days isolation after start of symptoms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · To be agreed with Headteacher.
<p>My child tests negative for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. · Contact school to agree a date for return. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Test comes back negative and child is well (when symptoms have gone in line with normal sickness procedures).
<p>My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Follow the usual school absence procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Feeling well or normal sickness absence procedures (e.g. 48 hours after last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting).
<p>Someone in my child's household has Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · Child to isolate for 14 days. · Isolate the whole household for 14 days. · Symptomatic household members to get tested. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The symptomatic person must receive a negative test result or full isolation period be completed before a child can return to school.

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<p>Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT. · Contact school to agree a date for return. · Isolate the whole household for a minimum of 14 days. · Anyone who becomes symptomatic must get tested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The child has completed 14 days of isolation. (A negative test for the child within the 14 days does not mean they can return to school)
<p>NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect Service has identified that my child has been in close contact with someone with confirmed symptoms of Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · Follow advice from Test, Trace, Protect Service. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY. · Contact school to agree a date for return. Minimum of 14 days isolation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The child has completed 14 days of isolation.
<p>Family/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · Consider Welsh Government travel advice regarding quarantine and exempt countries. · INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY. · Isolate the whole household for 14 days from arrival back in the UK. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
<p>My child's contact group has been sent home/told to isolate due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. · Please log into Google Classroom to continue with Home Learning. · Other members of the household (siblings/parents etc.) can continue to go to school and work unless a household (or extended household) member, including the child, has symptoms or receives a positive test result. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · School will inform you when your child can return.

Household - A group of adults and children living in the same property.

Extended Household - Up to four households who meet, act, and are treated as though they are one household (e.g. do not maintain social distancing and all have to self-isolate if one person becomes symptomatic).

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Self-Isolation/Isolation - Stay at home and do not leave the house for 14 days. Do not visit GP, pharmacy or hospital. You must not go out to buy food or other essentials. Do not go to work, school or public areas. Do not use public transport or taxis.

14 day period - This starts from when the first person in the household or contact group becomes ill.

10 day period - This starts from the day symptoms begin.

Contact Group - School class/year group 'bubble'.

NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect - This covers Wales' approach to testing in the community and tracks people that you have been in contact with in order to protect family, friends and the community. They may trace you if you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive.

Further information can be found at: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support over the past few months and as we approach this new future together. I spoke with many pupils this week about meeting challenges with positivity, kindness, and resilience. It is a great pleasure to once again see our St Joseph's corridors filled with smiles and learning as we work together on the best education possible, in the safest way possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jarrett
Headteacher

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