

All Saints Catholic College

A Voluntary Academy

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Be inspired. Be excellent. Succeed.

Dear Parents

I just wanted to be clear on what happens when we have a positive case of Covid 19 in school.

On notification I review the attendance of the child or staff member over the previous 48 hours to when symptoms started. These are the most crucial hours.

From that I need to determine who the positive case has had direct or close contact with. Direct means physical contact. Close means within 2 metres for 10-15 minutes.

I look at seating plans, attendance figures and then will speak to the positive case to get any further names.

All of this is based on advice from Tameside Public Health and Public Health England. It is the same procedure in all Tameside schools.

Where the child is positive they and their household bubble will need to isolate. The positive case must isolate for 10 days; the rest of the household for 14 days. Even if a test says negative that timeframe must be kept to.

If a child is sent home from school they will need to isolate for 14 days. The rest of their household bubble does not need to.

I know we are all nervous and anxious with relation to Covid 19 but I will always send a text home to say who needs to isolate, even at the weekend. I will also (where possible and within the school day) send a letter home to the children self-isolating. Please do read the letter carefully. It will give the date when the isolation period is over. Again, where possible, I will also send a letter to the rest of the year group in which the positive case is, to let them know of the situation and that they can stay in school.

Work will be set on Show My Homework. Please contact your child's Head of Year if you are struggling or have concerns.

I do, though, feel you should be kept informed of all cases and will send a text home but this will be different if your child is not part of the group who are having to self-isolate. Please read this text carefully. If you have siblings in the school in different year groups you may receive two texts which will give you different information about what to do with your child.

To be clear, if you do not receive a text to say your child needs to self-isolate then your child must come into school.

Finally, and sadly, we have had a number of cases where a child has arrived at school and has had to be sent home as they are unwell. Some of these are turning out to be positive cases. Can I reiterate and make clear – if your child is unwell and has any of the symptoms of Covid then please DO NOT send your child to school. You must book a test for your child and let us know the results. If you or any member of your household has symptoms, then your child should remain at home until you can arrange a test. If the result is negative, your child can then return to school. If you or a member of your household has tested positive, then your entire household bubble must self-isolate which means that your child cannot come into school for 14 days from the date symptoms started. Please make sure that you are keeping this in mind. PLEASE let us know the results of any tests as soon as possible.

May I thank you for all of your support with this situation and ask you to join me in prayers to bring it to an end swiftly and safely, and to thank those who are working so hard to make sure that we can continue to go on with our lives.

Yours sincerely

G Diamond
Headteacher