



21st October 2020

lrr/jcl/stjcovid19.2102020

Dear Parents and Carers

ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

This has been a phenomenal term and I was about to write to you yesterday saying that I was so pleased we had made it through to the end of our first term, relatively unscathed with the COVID-19 situation. As you will be aware, we now do know that we have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school setting. I fully understand this will have caused anxiety amongst the community and I can assure you all necessary steps have been taken to minimise any risk to others, to cause the least disruption possible and to support all those affected. The person involved is a member of staff at the school.

We have conducted a thorough risk assessment with Wiltshire Council and the Public Health South West Team and, as you would expect, the investigation into risk has been extremely intensive. I am pleased to be able to report that because of the school's close adherence to the wearing of masks, social distancing and sanitisation, the Public Health South West Team, have said there is **no** need for any students or staff to self-isolate. The decision to close the school late last night was a very difficult precautionary measure to make. With it being the end of term, we will not be re-opening today. I hope too that students have been able to access the remote learning and we will open as planned on Monday 2nd November for all students.

Going forwards, we have been able to impress on a very supportive Local Authority and Public Health Team that St John's has a unique and complex transport network which we need to consider when considering any sort of closure to students. I am confident that everyone behind the scenes is becoming better and better at dealing with the COVID-19 pressures and hopefully we will not be in this position again. We will also need to redouble all our efforts with mask wearing, social distancing and sanitisation as we move into the Term 2.

It just remains for me to say that I hope that all our students and families have a well-earned rest over the next week or so. Please also remember that it is vital you let the school know through the COVID-19 email - covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk if you have any pandemic related concerns we need to be aware of. This is particularly important if you need to take a test or have a positive case. We also continue to keep up to date our dedicated area on the school website which can be found at: <https://www.stjohns.excalibur.org.uk/latest-covid-19-information/>. The Twitter feed continues to be a very useful way of staying in touch with what St John's are doing in the community as well, so please follow that and re-tweet if you like. As ever, I hope that you and your family continue to keep safe.

With kindest regards

Mr I Tucker
Principal

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