



31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

lrr/jcl/stjcovid19.31.12.2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

I hope that during a very different Christmas Break, you and your families have been able to keep safe and well. As I write, the tiers have been stepped up for us once again and there has also been the anticipated announcement that schools are set to experience further delay on a physical return at the start of January 2021. This is just a brief note to outline what we can confidently expect, but there will be more to follow from the 4<sup>th</sup> January onwards.

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – school will be closed for the additional TD day – no students in.
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – school will be open only to students of critical workers and those classed as vulnerable. If you haven't already done so please follow this [link](#) and complete the questionnaire, so we know whether to expect your son or daughter in school. Please expect the day to run as normal from 0840 until 1500.
- All students not in school will begin receiving online learning from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January onwards, whilst the school prepares to set up mass testing facility in accordance with the Government guidance.
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January – Year 11 and 13 will return to school along with key worker and vulnerable children. Mass testing will commence, and all other year groups will be informed of the planned return from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Online learning will remain in place for students not attending school.
- Year 13 mocks and vocational exams will continue as planned. If any changes to the timetable are required, these will be communicated by Mr Rogan in due course.
- School Transport – look out for further information on this but Wiltshire Passenger Transport are telling us it is unlikely that there will be anything in place until 11<sup>th</sup> January. If, as a critical worker or parent of a vulnerable student, you need help in the meantime, please contact Miss McNeill or Mr Cook through the COVID-19 email address below.
- We will be expecting the customary total compliance with all the COVID-19 safety protocols.

In terms of preparation for the roll out of mass testing, this is a significant undertaking and we will be communicating this with you from the 4<sup>th</sup> January onwards, so please do look out for that information. There will undoubtedly be consent forms and we will create a manageable forum for you to raise questions too. I am also extremely grateful to those of you who have contacted the school to offer support and help with what will be a significant challenge. Schools now have some COVID-19 testing information, but this needs to be understood and planned for before we can announce anything firmly. I appreciate this is still not ideal but please be assured we will be in touch when we know more.

## **Notification of confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases**

It remains vital you let the school know through the COVID-19 email - [covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto: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/>.

We are fortunate enough to have an Academy Nurse at St John's who monitors these concerns regularly and the sooner we know, the sooner we can take action. This is happening throughout the holiday period.

The Twitter feed continues to be a very useful way of staying in touch with what St John's are doing in the community, so please follow that and re-tweet if you wish.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year and we will be in touch again soon.

With kindest regards



**Mr I Tucker**  
**Principal**

