



# St Michael's Catholic College

Llewellyn Street, Bermondsey, London SE16 4UN

Tel: 020 7237 6432 / Fax: 020 7252 2411

[www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk)

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Kathleen Faherty

15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been advised that there has been a second confirmed case of COVID-19 within the college in recent days and within Year 13.

In line with Public Health England advice and national guidance it has been decided that the whole of Year 13 should now stay at home and self-isolate until **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November**.

Students in Year 13 who have been identified as direct or proximity contacts of the most recent case have been contacted by telephone this evening to make them aware. However, we are asking all Year 13 students to stay at home and isolate to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in the community.

If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities and to the college on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November**. During the isolation period work will be set for your child by their class teachers on Google classroom in line with their usual timetable (this will include a significant number of live lessons) and from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November students will need to sign in to their tutor classroom each morning at 8:50am to meet attendance requirements. More details about remote learning will be sent out tomorrow. It is important that students complete all work set during this time, to keep up to date with their subjects at this important stage of Year 13. If you have any queries, please contact their Leader of Learning Mr Ludlow or the Head of Sixth Form Ms Rughooputh in the first instance.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities and are not required to isolate provided your child does not develop symptoms within their self-isolation period. **This means that siblings in other year groups can and should attend school as normal.**

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stayat-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

## **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 during this period of quarantine you should arrange for them to take a test as soon as possible. You should inform the college immediately via email to Mrs Ferguson, PA to the Principal [v.ferguson@stmichaelscollege.org.uk](mailto:v.ferguson@stmichaelscollege.org.uk).

If the test is **negative**, please inform the college, providing evidence of the test result so that arrangements can be made for your child to return to college as normal at the end of the quarantine period.

If the test is **positive**, please also inform the college as soon as possible. Your child will be required to stay at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared which may extend beyond this quarantine period the college has imposed. All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to

work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

### Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

### For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

### How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

#### Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

### Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

I appreciate this situation is challenging for you and your family and closing the college to all students in Year 13 is not a decision I have taken lightly. However, it is necessary to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to help reduce the spread of infection. Thank you in advance for your support at this time and I will be in touch with an update as soon as further information is available.

Yours faithfully,



Ms F. Corcoran  
Principal

