



# St Michael's Catholic College

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

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Kathleen Faherty

**7<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Single Covid-19 case in the college and advice to parents or carers of students (non-proximity contacts) who are required to **remain** in school.**

We have been advised this morning there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the college in Year 10.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the local public health team in Southwark.

In line with Department of Education guidance and information issued to the college anyone who has been in close proximity to the person with confirmed Covid-19 has already been informed by the college and directed to stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

**The college remains open for all other students and providing your child remains well they should continue to attend as normal.** This decision is in line with the Department of Education and Public Health England Guidance. Your child **is not required to self-isolate** as the measures we have taken to keep year groups apart and during the college day means your child has not been in close proximity to person who has tested positive. Please be reassured that we will keep this situation under close review.

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

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and 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.**

**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. 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

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, 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/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 Further information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

I appreciate this situation may be concerning for you and your family. However, please be reassured that the college will continue to take whatever action is necessary to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families. Whilst we have had a couple of students testing positive over the past week, it is important to bear in mind that the number of cases we have had to date is much smaller than some other local secondary schools and is very small indeed in comparison to the local and London averages. This is why it is important that all students and families follow the tier 2 guidance at all times in support of everyone in our college community.

Thank you in advance for your support at this time.

Yours faithfully,



Ms F. Corcoran  
Principal

