

St Monica's R.C. High School

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September 24th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I write to you today to inform you there have been further confirmed pupil cases of COVID-19 in our school. The whole of Year 11 are now self-isolating and being educated off site. We are experiencing cases in other year groups. This morning, I spoke at length with advisers from the Health Protection Team and shared with them our in-school processes to identify contacts of positive cases. They were more than satisfied with how we are managing this situation in school. It was made clear to me that community transmission (outside of school) is accounting for a large volume of Covid-19 cases across our borough. In this context, we expect to see further cases in school.

This morning I spoke to all members of the community about our social responsibilities. It has never been more important to consider how our actions affect others and I stressed this today in a whole school assembly. I reminded all pupils and all staff of the need to follow local and national guidance for the benefit of everyone. This includes the wearing of face coverings on public transport to and from school and the wearing of face coverings in school when appropriate. We are now reviewing our behaviour policies to strengthen responses where individuals do not take the guidance seriously. I need to ask you to support all efforts locally and nationally to control the transmission of this virus.

Over the next day we will issue to all pupils in school a home learning pack. This will be done tomorrow to ensure pupils are better prepared, should further cases arise. We have spent the week ensuring all pupils are clear regarding their password logins for the various learning platforms we use.

We continue to review and carry out further risk assessments on a daily basis. Our plans continue to change based on information we receive.

If your child displays any symptoms, please keep them at home and I ask you to err on the side of caution where a child has any type of symptom. Please support the local community by ensuring your children follow social distancing guidance. Working together we will be able to get through this.

Thank you for your continued support during challenging times.

Yours faithfully

Mr C Foley
Headteacher
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