



In all things faithful

25th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been advised that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school community.

As you would expect we undertook immediate action. We have carried out a full risk assessment and identified anyone who has been in close contact with the affected case. Furthermore, we promptly reported the positive case to the Local Health Protection Team [LHPT] who immediately carried out a full risk assessment in line with the LHPT guidance.

We have identified all the pupils who were in close contact with the child and have taken the necessary action of ringing parents and asking them to self-isolate for the required time. It has been necessary on this occasion to send the whole of Year 10 home. **If you have NOT been contacted there is no need for your child to self-isolate.** We have also identified all the staff who may have been in close contact with the child and took the necessary action.

As said on the letter dated 13th September, it is inevitable that there would be a positive case at some time. The reality is that St Damian's, like every other place, is not 100% safe and there are likely to be more cases in the future. I am sorry for the inconvenience that this may cause but the safety of our community is paramount.

I ask all parents to remain alert and act swiftly if someone becomes unwell, to minimise the transmission of the virus. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If your child, or anyone in your household, develops these symptoms, your whole household must remain at home and not go to work, school or public areas. You should arrange testing for the person who has developed symptoms. When the result is known, further advice will be available. Please ensure that you contact school to keep us informed.

Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

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

- 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
- maintain an appropriate social distance with non-household members of over 2 metres

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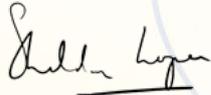
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- wear a face covering as requested in school and in communal places where it may be difficult to socially distance
- follow local measures in place as outlined by the national government
- remember: Hands, Face, Space

Further information is available at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Finally, as usual thanks for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Logue
Headteacher