



St Joseph's Catholic Academy

Member of the Newman Catholic Collegiate

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Acting Executive Principal- Mrs D Farmer
Acting Head of School – Mrs R Wilson

Monday 2nd November 2020

Dear Parents

I am sure you have seen that over the weekend the Government has announced that England will be going into a national lockdown from Thursday 5th November until at least Wednesday 2nd December.

From a school's point of view our aim is to continue to stay open to ALL pupils for this period and we expect all children to continue to attend as normal. We will continue to offer wrap around care and the catch-up programmes for selected children.

It is more important than ever that children arrive on time and are collected on time. Parents must wear a mask and must NOT congregate on the yard or by the school entrances. Once you have dropped your children off, or collected them, you must return home (or to work if you can't work from home).

During these challenging times, I ask all parents to ensure that contact details are kept up to date in case of the need to contact you in an emergency. As per our risk assessment, any person displaying signs of coronavirus must be sent home. Therefore, in the unlikely event of your child being unwell, we must be able to reach a contact without delay.

We hope that we never have to send children home due to contact with a coronavirus positive case but please be aware that this may be necessary. Therefore, we ask you to consider how your child would be able to get home safely. For example, what arrangements will you have to collect your child? We hope that we are never in this position but it is sensible to plan for such events.

I must stress that the best place for your child is at school. It is vitally important for their wellbeing that they are learning and socialising with their peers.

As we remain in Tier 2 until Thursday, and then into lockdown from Thursday, the following apply until further notice:

- Children cannot be collected by anyone other than their parents or carers or someone within the support bubble. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household> or Childcare bubble (A childcare bubble is where someone in one household provides informal (unpaid and unregistered) childcare to a child aged 13 or under in another household. For any given childcare bubble, this must always be between the same two households.)
- Parents MUST NOT mix and MUST be reminded that once their child has been dropped off they should return home (or to work if they are unable to work from home)
- Parents MUST drop off and collect on time.



- Wrap around care will remain open if staffing ratios permit.

Finally, I would like to thank you in advance for your support. We are going to face many situations going forward and I ask for your consideration and support with all the decisions we have to make.

Below is some useful information:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november#protecting-people-more-at-risk-from-coronavirus>

Yours sincerely

Mr D Farmer
Acting Executive Principal