



St. John's RC School
Turpins Lane, Woodford Bridge
Essex. IG8 8AX
Telephone: (020) 8504 1818
office@stjohnsrcschool.co.uk
www.stjohnsrcschool.co.uk
Head of School: Mrs Wendy Killilea

08 January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardian,

As you are all very much aware Boris Johnson announced a full lockdown on 8th January at 8pm as the new variant of the coronavirus has led to rapidly escalating case numbers.

The school has been open to those students whom are looked after, have parents or carers who are critical care workers or are considered vulnerable.

We are in process of organising the testing and tracing system and this will hopefully be in place by the 18th January. This will enable us to test all of the school and college staff and all secondary and above aged students (after parental/carer consent has been obtained), more detailed information will follow.

It is our aim that the school will open to all students from the Monday 18th January and I have asked classroom teachers to try and gauge how many students in their respective classes intend to return on the 18th January. If you feel that your young person is safer at home then we will respect your decision and we will continue to provide remote learning. It is not mandatory for students to attend on site provisions and you will not be penalised if you decide to keep your young person safely at home. If you decide to send students to school then you will need to liaise with your transport provider to arrange transport.

I am very concerned about the rapid spread of the virus and possible impact it will have on our school and college community. We already have a number of staff whom are shielding due to underlying medical conditions or have not returned after the Christmas break as they have contracted the virus and are at present unwell.

We have students attending both school and college from 9 local authorities all of which have some of the highest rates of infection in the country. So my concern, as always is, with the safety of all of our students and staff and I do not want to put any of them under any unnecessary risk, with this in mind we may not be able to offer full time provision on site for all of the students depending upon the numbers wishing to return as I do not have enough staff fit and well to facilitate this safely.

I will of course update you again if this situation changes.

Kind Regards,

Wendy Killilea
Head of School