



26th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Local Lockdown Update

As I am sure you are aware Stockport went into local lockdown on Saturday 26th September at midnight. As well as the obvious concern this brings to us all about the spread of the virus, it brings additional increased restrictions which include the expectations around face coverings.

At St James' from Monday 28th September it will now be mandatory that face coverings will be worn by adults and pupils when moving around indoors, such as in corridors and communal areas, including the canteen and main hall, where social distancing is difficult to maintain. It will not be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and they may inhibit teaching and learning.

If you would like further information on face coverings in education, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-in-education/face-coverings-in-education>

Your child **must arrive with a facemask ready for school on Monday**, they can be disposable or reusable, but they must be suitable for school. Please can I ask that you speak to your child and ensure that they are aware that they will need to wear a **facemask which covers their nose and mouth**:

- On any bus coming to or from school
- In any corridor
- In any toilet
- In the canteen (until they are eating their food) and main hall

When pupils remove their mask it must be placed in their blazer pocket or bag and not left on a desk or table. If there are any medical conditions that we need to be aware of which may prevent your child from wearing a mask please contact the pastoral team on Monday. Sanctions, in line with the behaviour policy, will be in place for those students who do not wear a mask and therefore endanger members of our St James' family.

Please remind your child about the need for good hygiene. It is important that they wash their hands on a regular basis for 20 seconds using soap and follow the approach of 'catch it, bin it, kill it' when coughing or sneezing

Finally, can I remind parents, if your child or anyone in your household is displaying any symptoms of coronavirus; a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell the household must self-isolate, not attend school, book a Coronavirus test and inform school of the results. If someone **tests negative**, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms linked to Covid-19, they can stop self-isolating. Other members of their household can also stop self-isolating. If someone **tests positive**, they should follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their



ST JAMES'

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Pontifex
Headteacher