



## *Saint Joseph's* CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

### **URGENT: COVID Testing Procedures and Guidance**

In our efforts to protect the St Joseph's Catholic School community we must please ask that parents read the following guidance regarding students with COVID symptoms and when to get a PCR test.

#### **When should my child get a PCR test?**

If your child is experiencing symptoms of Covid; raised temperature, cough or loss of taste or smell, you must book a PCR test as soon as possible and your child should remain at home until you receive the results. **Please be aware that if your child is experiencing one of these symptoms it is not sufficient to administer a Lateral Flow Test (LFT).**

#### **How will this impact my child's attendance?**

If your child displays one of the above symptoms and is isolating awaiting a PCR result, they will be coded in the school register as an X code. This is not classed as absent and so will not negatively impact your child's attendance record. This is a provision put in place by DfE and UK Government to help ensure parents are not deterred from getting a PCR test when their child displays symptoms.

#### **Additional guidance**

In addition, as we work to keep the St Joseph's Community as safe as possible, we would advise the following: If your child is suffering from a sore throat, headache, upset stomach or cold/flu symptoms, and these symptoms are severe enough that your child cannot attend school, we would advise that you to book a PCR test. Your child is not required to isolate whilst awaiting the results of this test and should attend school as soon as they are able.

Many thanks,

Mr O Ford

Senior Leader – Attendance & Behaviour  
St Joseph's Catholic School