



21st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will probably have seen or read the news stories this week about schools and colleges being asked to implement a phased start to the spring term. I am writing to you today to explain how St John Bosco Arts College intends to respond to this.

We will follow the government guidance on how to phase the start of term, which is intended to ensure effective education can continue but also reduce the spread of the virus, as pupils and staff return after Christmas. This means the following:

On Tuesday 5th January 2021, only the following pupils should attend school:

- Vulnerable children and children of critical workers (please follow the link for more information about what defines a vulnerable child or critical worker)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>
If your daughter is in Y7, 8, 9 or 10 and meets either of these sets of criteria, please email enquiries@stjohnbosco.org.uk if you would like them to attend the first week of next term, from Tuesday, 5th January 2021.
- Pupils in examination year groups must attend school (at St John Bosco Arts College, this means students in Years 11,12 and 13.)

If you are unsure about whether or not your child falls into any of these categories, please contact us through enquiries@stjohnbosco.org.uk for confirmation.

During this first week of term, all other pupils should stay at home. We will be providing remote education for these pupils. More details on this will follow.

From Monday 11 January 2021, it is anticipated that all pupils should attend school as normal.

Mass testing programme information:

Following the Government announcement regarding testing in schools, consent forms will be issued at the start of the new term and only children whose parents provide informed consent will be tested as part of this initiative.

We are positive about the potential for the mass testing of pupils and staff in schools, as a way of reducing the spread of the virus and enabling fewer pupils and staff to have to self-isolate.

Setting up this programme in schools is an incredibly complex operation. We have been sent some information about how it should work already, but more detailed guidance is expected to be produced by the government over the Christmas holiday period.

We will let you know more about our plans as soon as we can. In the meantime, from the start of next term, we will continue to implement the safety measures we have been using in the autumn term.

ST JOHN BOSCO ARTS COLLEGE

Telephone: 0151 235 1620

Email: enquiries@stjohnbosco.org.uk www.stjohnboscoartscollege.com

Storrington Avenue, Liverpool L11 9DQ

Headteacher: Mr Darren Gidman, BSc [Hons], NPQH





Please accept our apologies for having to send this letter after term has already ended. We are having to respond to a vast quantity of extremely last minute and complex government guidance. If the guidance changes we will update you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience, and all best wishes for a safe and enjoyable Christmas holiday.

Yours sincerely

D. Gidman

Mr D Gidman
Headteacher

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