



Dear Parents and Carers

The new Omicron strain of the Covid 19 virus is a worrying development and new measures are being put in place to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible in school.

We would be grateful for your support in providing and reminding your child, that masks must be worn in common areas of the school.

The government has announced that we are required to test students again, upon our return in January. Therefore, testing will take place on Wednesday, 5th January, with a second test taking place on Monday 10th January.

All students should return to school at normal time on 5th January and will be brought out of class to be tested. It will be a case of no news is good news and we will only contact those who test positive.

We need to collect consent for testing again for all students. Please complete the [form here](#) to give your consent.

We have read the guidance carefully from Liverpool City Council and the Health Protection Agency and have had, regrettably, to take the decision that The Christmas Extravaganza, pensioners Christmas lunch and other trips and will have to be cancelled. I know that many young people have been preparing for these and we are very disappointed, but the safety of staff, pupils, students and parents and families of St John Bosco has always been our paramount concern.

Asymptomatic testing will help to reduce the chance of the virus spreading. We are taking this opportunity to remind students to do a rapid test twice a week (every 3 to 4 days) to check if they have the virus. If students test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

- wash your hands with soap and water often - do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

ST JOHN BOSCO ARTS COLLEGE

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



Symptoms of COVID 19

If a student develops COVID-19 symptoms they should take a PCR test and isolate.

COVID-19 symptoms are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. You can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 119.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Gidman
Headteacher

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