



Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

I write at the end of our second full week back after the summer break it is fantastic to have everyone back in school.

School has returned to a more normal routine, and everyone is adjusting to this. We carried out two rounds of Lateral Flow Tests across all year groups and I thank you and our pupils for your cooperation with this.

### **Covid vaccinations for 12 - 15 year olds**

This autumn all pupils aged 12 to 15 years are being offered the first dose of the Covid vaccination. Vaccinating pupils should help to reduce the need for time off school and reduce the risk of spread of Covid. We await more information from our local NHS health team about when this will happen, but I would like to reassure all parents and carers that there are no plans to vaccinate anyone in school, without explicit parental permission. Every parent and carer will be asked for consent. I will send more information about this when I have it.

### **Flu vaccinations for Years 7-11**

I have been asked by the school immunisation service to ask parents to complete their e-consent to the flu vaccines that are being offered in schools this year.

<https://forms.merseyscare.nhs.uk/flu-vaccination>

If you have any queries about these vaccinations or difficulties accessing the link please contact the immunisation team (0151 295 3833) who will be happy to help.

**Some people may not want to take up this offer and they ask that you still complete the form and choose that you don't want your child to receive it to avoid the service contacting you.**

There have been a small number of Covid cases within the school community since the start of term and I would like to take time to reassure you that we have taken all necessary actions since hearing this information, to keep all children at our school as safe as possible. NHS Test and Trace work with any positive case, and/or their parent or carer, to identify close contacts. Contacts will be informed by NHS test and trace.

In order to keep our school community safe and our children in school there are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with Covid.

Regular asymptomatic Covid testing will help to reduce the chance of the virus spreading. I am taking this opportunity to remind pupils 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.

**ST JOHN BOSCO ARTS COLLEGE**

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



### 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/>

### Symptoms of Covid

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>.

### E-scooters

Liverpool is currently taking part in a Liverpool City Region led pilot with VOI scooters, which aims to establish e-scooters in every neighbourhood to help combat the rise in vehicle use on our roads and promote a more eco-friendly mode of transport. These scooters are easily identifiable being orange in colour and displaying a small registration number on the front and back.

- All riders of these scooters must hold a valid UK Provisional or full driving licence
- All riders must be 18+ years old

### Private scooters

It is against the law to ride an e-scooter anywhere other than on private land and only then with the express permission of the landowner. Merseyside Police are targeting the illegal use of these scooters and I have been asked to inform parents and young people about this.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Gidman  
Headteacher

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