



Dear Parents and Carers of Year 12 students,

**Today, on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, we have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Year 12.**

As you will be aware, since we have returned to school each year group has formed their own 'bubble'. **We have followed the national guidance and have identified that your child may have had contact with the affected person.** I have therefore taken advice from Public Health England and in line with the national guidance, we are asking that your child now remains at home and self-isolates.

**Public Health England have advised that all students in Year 12 will need to self-isolate from now up until and including Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December.**

You will note this is slightly shorter than the full 10 days of isolation, this is because the isolation period starts from the last day the affected student attended school, which was Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The affected student received their test result this morning (Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December) and therefore we have immediately been working with Public Health England, the Local Authority and the Department for Education and have followed their direction by letting parents know.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period.

We are so sorry that this period of self-isolation spans across the Christmas holiday, we know this will be particularly disappointing for you and your child, however, we are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in the community.

As a school we will continue to do all we can to limit the spread of COVID-19. We know and understand that this is a worrying time and we feel dreadfully sorry for those students who are having to remain at home and are affected by this disease. We are hopeful that our immediate action and precautionary approach will ensure that this is an isolated case.

You will have seen in the news over the last few days about students receiving remote learning instead of returning to school after the Christmas break. I will be writing to you in due course to make you aware of these arrangements.

Below, I have included some useful sites for your reference:

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Please see the link to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>



## What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, **you should organise for your child to be tested** via the [NHS online portal](#) or by calling 119. Your household should then isolate until you receive the test results giving the all clear. If this becomes the case, I would ask that you let me know as soon as possible by emailing me at [pskipp@jogschool.org](mailto:pskipp@jogschool.org)

## Symptoms of COVID-19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- 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.

## How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

- Do:
- 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/>

We do understand that this is a really challenging and complex situation for parents and carers so do feel free to contact us at any time should you require any further clarification. We also understand that this can lead to anxiety amongst our young people, therefore if at any stage they require support, please do encourage them to contact us via the JOG Support web page, it can be found here:

<https://www.johnofgauntschool.org/page/?title=Care+%26amp%3B+Support&pid=59>

Yours sincerely

Paul Skipp  
Headteacher