



Dear Parents and Carers,

**Today, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December, we have been made aware of a child in Year 12 who has tested positive for COVID-19.**

Whilst this is an eventuality that we desperately hoped to avoid, especially over the Christmas holiday, we have planned thoroughly for this scenario. As a result we are working closely with Public Health England. We have acted quickly and decisively in line with the national guidance and we have been advised that Year 12 students will be required to self-isolate.

All students who potentially had contact with the confirmed case have received an individual letter and will be staying at home to self-isolate. As a school we will continue to do all we can to limit the disease. 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.

Below I have included a reminder of useful information;

### **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 isolate until you receive the test results giving the all clear. If this is the case, I would ask that you contact me immediately by email 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
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

### **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



**The John of Gaunt School**  
A Community Academy

### Further information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> and <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

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 pastoral 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

