

Tuesday March 31st 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

St. John's School and College Covid-19: March 31st update

As you will know we have had to make a number of temporary changes to our provision owing to the health and safety challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact it has had on our staffing levels and, in some cases, supply chains for essential items such as PPE.

We recognise that these temporary changes are, in many cases, causing you and your family significant inconvenience and disruption.

This letter does not apply where your son/daughter is on a 52-week placement: current arrangements continue.

During the course of this week (w/c March 30th) we will be speaking to you all by phone and reviewing our risk assessments. We would like to slowly and safely reinstate more on-site provision after Easter, where this is possible to do. I have to be frank and state that wider events could postpone the reinstating of this provision. So SLT will continue to review the situation during the Easter Holidays. This may require you to respond to our offers of flexible provision such as part-time timetables, shorter weeks or alternate weeks (in addition to our outreach support currently on offer) during this transitional period. For families who rely on local authority (LA) transport for their sons/daughters it also relies on the LAs being similarly flexible and on them (the LA) risk assessing the impact of transport to school or college.

If you believe that, on balance, your child is better off at home supported by St. John's remotely, as this will provide more continuity, then please let the Headteacher or Principal know. Where we believe that, through no fault of their own, a young person is likely to be unable to maintain social distancing or require physical support or significant personal care we may not be able to support them during these difficult weeks.

This transitional provision after Easter will look very different and will involve:

- Less learners on site than normal
- More 1:1 teaching at a distance of >2 metres
- Reduced social activities in residential care settings
- Potential last-minute changes if staffing levels drop over-night
- Written agreement from LAs that transport will be risk assessed and provided flexibly.

Registered Charity No. 1061001

St. John's School & College

Walpole Road, Brighton BN2 OAF
T 01273 244000 E reception@st-johns.co.uk

st-johns.co.uk



Patron: Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP
Patron: Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb
Patron: Maria Caulfield MP

Can I also remind you of current guidance?

The government's clear message is:

'Stay at Home to protect the NHS and to save lives.'

Please do not send your child to school or college if they have either:

- **a high temperature** – of over 37.8 degrees – and if you don't have a thermometer, this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

If your child experiences either of the above symptoms, they must stay at home for 7 days. If someone in your household has symptoms, you must keep your child at home for 14 days. This starts from the moment they develop their symptoms. For the latest information on the Coronavirus along with advice on symptoms and how to socially distance and self-isolate, please look at the NHS website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

If you are able to keep your child at home, please do so but please let the Headteacher (Fran Pass) or Principal (Karen Grist) know.

Thank you for bearing with us in these extra-ordinary times,



Simon
CEO

Registered Charity No. 1061001

St. John's School & College

Walpole Road, Brighton BN2 OAF
T 01273 244000 E reception@st-johns.co.uk

st-johns.co.uk



Patron: Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP
Patron: Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb
Patron: Maria Caulfield MP