

Dear Parents and families,

May 12th 2020

Covid 19 and St. John's School and College

You will have read about the guidance which was issued yesterday from the Government concerning schools and colleges.

The key section is:

"Special schools, special post-16 institutions and hospital schools should work towards welcoming back as many children and young people as can be safely catered for in their setting. They may want to prioritise attendance based on key transitions and the impact on life chances and development, and to consider creating part-time attendance rotas so that as many children as possible can benefit from attending their setting. Special settings should work with local authorities and families to ensure that decisions about attendance are informed by existing risk assessments for their children and young people, which should be kept up to date. "

It will take us some time to work through all this guidance, although we have been working hard along these lines already, and then work out the practical implications for the children, young people and adults in our care in the coming weeks. **Staff continue to work urgently on this matter, but we are unlikely to have any more detail to share with you until May 21st, at the earliest.** Families who choose to keep their son or daughter at home will continue to have our full moral and practical support.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to inform us during our daily contact if you are experiencing any significant behavioural issues at home with your son/daughter.

Today is International Nurses Day and I would like to send a huge and heartfelt thank you to all our nursing staff and all our other staff who are supporting the physical and emotional health of your sons and daughters.

With all our best wishes,

Simon.

- **Stay Alert to Control the Virus to Save Lives.**
- follow the guidance from Public Health England which continues to state:

*"The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature. If you have these symptoms, however mild, **stay at home** and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started (if you live alone), or 14 days (if you live with someone who has symptoms). You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999. "*