

20th November 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Over the past week we have had four students and one member of staff test positive for coronavirus. Once we are notified of a positive case, we follow all the guidelines closely and identify the close contacts to that person for the 48 hours prior to their symptoms developing.

Unfortunately, this has resulted in seven students in year 7, thirty four students in year 10, fifteen students in year 11 and two members of staff being identified as close contacts and being asked to self-isolate at home for a period of time.

We do not require whole classes or indeed entire year groups to self-isolate at this moment in time due to the way we have organised our site and student groupings.

If you have not received a phone call and letter indicating that your child has been identified as a close contact, no action is necessary – they should attend school as normal.

Work for all lessons that these students [and any other absent students] will not be attending school for can be found on Google Classroom. For some lessons we are planning to trial 'live lessons' via video meeting software within Google Classroom so that students are able to access their normal lessons from home. More details will be made available from the individual teachers, where this is relevant, and a summary of work is shared using Google Guardians. More information on these resources can be found on the Home Learning page on our website.

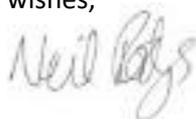
Given the local, national and international prevalence of this virus, having some positive cases of coronavirus within our school at some point in time was almost inevitable – indeed we are one of the last secondary schools in the area to record a positive case of covid-19. Despite that, this is certainly a difficult period for JCSC and its community. I can assure you that we are doing all we can to continue to provide the very best education whilst keeping us all as safe as possible. Thank you for doing the same by ensuring the lockdown is adhered to by your children, and that they are aware of the importance of social distancing and good hygiene at this crucial time.

Additionally, please do not come to school unless you have an appointment and we are expecting you – we need to minimise the number of people who are on the premises in order to minimise the potential spread of the virus. Please phone or email instead.

Please do keep in touch – we are trying to do all we can to support you, your children and each other through this stressful time. Rest assured we're working hard to be as efficient and effective as possible, and any advice or suggestions you could give us would be most welcome.

Most importantly, stay safe and take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Neil Rodgers'.

Neil Rodgers
Executive Headteacher