



# Painsley Catholic College

Specialist Science College  
Specialist Mathematics and Computing College  
Principal: Mrs R Waugh BA (Hons). PGCE  
CEO: Mr S G Bell, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Station Road, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, ST10 1LH  
Telephone: 01538 493777  
Email: [office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.painsley.co.uk](http://www.painsley.co.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a challenging week in school this week and we are reminded of the need for all in our community to continue to adhere to our risk assessment, which is in line with the government guidelines and has been fully endorsed by Staffordshire local outbreak team. As a result of a very small number of cases in school we have asked some members of Year 11 and the Sixth Form bubble to self-isolate. The relevant students and bubbles have all received letters outlining the requirement to self-isolate.

I need to make it clear that staff and children should not attend school if they are unwell. This includes the following symptoms:

- New continuous cough and/or
- High temperature
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**If a member of the community has the above symptoms, they should have a test and not return until the result is known.**

Furthermore, if a person has the following symptoms, a test should be arranged. They can attend school but only if they are well enough to do so and only need to self-isolate if the test comes back positive:

- Headaches
- Aches and pains
- Feeling very tired for no good reason
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Sometime 'tummy ache' in children

This is in line with new advice from Staffordshire Local Authority.

**As a reminder:**

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.



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The Painsley Catholic Academy.  
A company limited by guarantee registered in  
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The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

## For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

## 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/>

Please refer to the following link for the government's current guidance for parents on schools and colleges:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Please can you inform school if your child tests positive for coronavirus by contacting reception on 01538 493777.



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In other news, we look forward to meeting Year 7 parents next week for their 'virtual' parents evening. Any parent who is having difficulty signing up should contact the office.

I remind you once again that Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November is an INSET day in school and no students should attend.

Finally, I have found my faith to be a great source of strength during these difficult times. This Sunday's Gospel is very fitting as it is the Parable of the Talents. There is no doubt that you have all, as one community, used your talents to the full and I sincerely thank you. St Paul writes, 'Encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.' In these difficult times for the school and world, the ministry of encouragement is all the more necessary.

God bless

Principal



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