



# St Mary's Catholic School

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*where everyone can succeed*



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Dear Parents and Carers

Hope you and your family are safe and well.

## Positive COVID-19 case reported in Year 8

I wanted to let you know that there has been a further positive case of COVID-19 confirmed today in Year 8. Please be reassured that we have followed all government and public health guidance and protocols fully.

As a result, we are confident that we have identified all students who may have come into close contact with the confirmed case in lessons and at social times during the 48 hours before the symptoms started, as per public health advice. The parents/carers of these students have been contacted earlier today. All of these students will now complete a 14 day self-isolation period from the date of their last contact with the confirmed case, as per government guidance. Of course, the name of the student who has tested positive for COVID-19 must remain confidential.

All other students should therefore continue to attend school as normal unless, as outlined in my previous letters:

- They develop symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell)
- Someone in their household develops symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19
- They have been advised to isolate by the NHS Test and Trace process

I also wanted to let you know that 3 other positive student cases of COVID-19 have just been confirmed with us. One in Year 8 and two in Year 11. However, in each of these individual cases, Public Health guidance was very clear that no further action was needed. This is largely because Public Health/NHS contact tracing identifies anyone who may have been a close contact to a positive case in the 48 hour period before the positive case developed any symptoms. In these cases, the student had not been in school for the 48 hours before their symptoms began and therefore, there are no close contacts in school.

If your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and arrangements should be made for him/her to be tested. At that time, all other household members must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise. If your child does develop the above symptoms, they must remain at home until a negative test for COVID-19 is received. Please let the school know immediately should your child test positive for COVID-19.

Further information and support is available at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus).

Thank you for your continued support and many best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Patterson  
Headteacher