



# Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Principal: Mr E Hodges



Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to inform you that we have been notified of a positive case of COVID-19 in relation to a Year 13 student at Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School.

We appreciate that you may find this news concerning so early into the new academic year but please be assured we have taken steps to act quickly to reduce the risk of cross transmission within the school. We have contacted Public Health England and will continue to monitor the situation. This letter is, therefore, to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child should they have any questions or concerns.

**We are currently asking that all Year 13 students isolate at home on Monday 5th October 2020, this includes those who were due to go on the Year 13 Geography trip which is postponed. Live lessons will be provided through Google Classroom in their normal timetable slots. This is to allow us to undertake the necessary contact tracing in school to determine which students will need to isolate for a longer period. We hope to be able to allow some Year 13 students to return on Tuesday 6th October, but we will contact Year 13 parents directly on Monday to determine if this is possible. Students in all other year groups should attend school as normal. This is the case even if you have a sibling in Year 13 who is staying at home.**

Other members of Year 13 households do not need to self-isolate at the present time unless your child develops COVID-19 like symptoms. If your child does develop symptoms they should be tested as per the guidance from NHS 111 and the school informed of the result so we can further assess our response plan.

The school can continue to operate as normal in line with our COVID secure guidelines. We will, however, be reminding all members of the school community that they should continue to monitor for any new COVID like symptoms they may develop.

We appreciate that as a parent you may have a number of questions at this stage and, therefore, we have put together the following FAQ to help address them. If, once you have read these questions you have any additional comments or questions, please feel free to contact the academy by email and we will respond to your query as soon as possible.

I would like to kindly ask all parents, carers and family members to avoid discussing this case on social media or via WhatsApp groups as this can often create misinformation and increase anxiety unnecessarily. Please be assured that we will contact parents should any aspect of this situation change and therefore you can rely on the school for any official news.

Yours sincerely

Mr E Hodges

**Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School**

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