



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a safe and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school this term.

Further to Wednesday's announcement regarding the staggered reopening of secondary schools in January, the Trust has put in place a programme of Covid testing for all pupils and staff across our secondary schools.

We want to assure you that every effort is being made to have a safe and secure environment for every pupil.

The Trust will launch its Mass Self Testing programme on the 11th of January and over this week every pupil will have a test in school. This will be followed up with regular Self Testing every week in school beginning 18th of January.

We encourage you all to support this programme and assist us in our determined drive to support the national effort to contain the spread of the virus.

Over the coming days we will issue further guidance on the necessary consent procedures and share the Self Testing guidance.

### **Tuesday 5th January for Year 7 to 11: Online learning**

We want to ensure that your child's well-being and education is at the forefront of all that we do. Therefore, from **Tuesday 5th January all learners (not just those in exam years)** will be able to access live online lessons from period 1. We encourage every pupil to login to Google classroom and access the links to join live lessons. All pupils will follow their normal timetable. An updated how to guide will be made available on our website and social media platforms over the coming days.

### **Who is eligible to attend school from Tuesday 5th January?**

Those pupils deemed vulnerable or those pupils whose parents are critical workers will be able to attend school as normal from Tuesday 5th January if you have no alternative arrangements. Please follow the link below for clarification on the categories:

*At the heart of the community since 1964*

Executive Headteacher: Mr M Burns | Deputy Headteacher: Mr D McCann | Head of School: Miss D Law  
St Patrick's Catholic College, Baysdale Road, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees, TS17 9DE  
Tel: 01642 613327 | Email: [enquiries@stpatricks.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stpatricks.npcat.org.uk) | Website: [stpatricks.npcat.org.uk](http://stpatricks.npcat.org.uk)

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We do ask that parents provide **evidence of their eligibility for critical worker status** in order that we minimise as much face to face contact until the Mass Self Testing programme is up and running. Pupils may bring evidence with them on return to school Tuesday 5th January and if eligible they are expected to be in full school uniform with their equipment and face covering.

### **School meals**

Those pupils who are in receipt of free school meals will be able to collect a packed lunch from school from 11:00 am Tuesday 5th January. Please contact the school reception between 9-10am if you require a packed lunch for your child that week and we will arrange the suitable time. Vulnerable and critical worker pupils who are in school will be able to access a school lunch as normal.

### **Week commencing 11th January: Mass self testing**

**Please note: Only those pupils where we have consent will be tested. Consent forms will be sent electronically to parents and carers.**

- **11th January:**
  - Y11 will attend school plus critical worker and pupils deemed vulnerable. These pupils will be tested.
  - Online lessons will continue for all other year groups.
- **12th January:**
  - Y10 will attend school for testing at 1.30pm and return home once completed.
  - Y11 will continue to attend school plus critical worker and pupils deemed vulnerable.

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- Online lessons will continue for all other year groups.
- **13th January:**
  - Y9 will attend school for testing at 1.30pm and return home once completed.
  - Y11 will continue to attend school plus critical worker and pupils deemed vulnerable.
  - Online lessons will continue for all other year groups.
- **14th January:**
  - Y8 will attend school for testing at 1.30pm and return home once completed.
  - Y11 will continue to attend school plus critical worker and pupils deemed vulnerable.
  - Online lessons will continue for all other year groups.
- **15th January:**
  - Y7 will attend school for testing at 1.30pm and return home once completed.
  - Y11 will continue to attend school plus critical worker and pupils deemed vulnerable.
  - Online lessons will continue for all other year groups.

**Year 7 – 10 only need to attend for their testing appointment on the allocated day at 1:30pm, pupils will then be dismissed from school.**

#### **Week commencing 18th January**

- All pupils will attend school.
- Regular weekly testing will commence.

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Thank you for your support during these ever changing times. Please be assured we are doing everything we can and adhering to all government guidance to keep our pupils and staff safe.

Yours Faithfully,

Mr M Burns  
Executive Headteacher

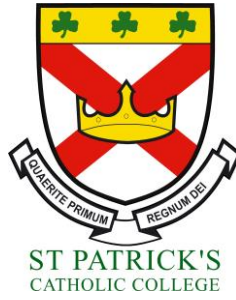
Miss D Law  
Head of School

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