



La Retraite

Roman Catholic 11-19 Girls' School

Atkins Road, Clapham Park, London SW12 0AB

Tel: 020 8673 5644 Fax: 020 8675 8577

schsec@laretraite.lambeth.sch.uk

www.laretraite.lambeth.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Malins

Friday 4 December 2020

Dear Parents,

Each week I have been notifying you of confirmed cases of Covid. This week we have had 3 further cases. Earlier in the week we were notified that another Yr 11 pupil had tested positive. As Yr 11 have been isolating anyway, we did not have to take any further action. We also had a member of staff who tested positive. This staff member had not been in close contact with other staff or pupils so we did not have to ask anyone to isolate. On Wednesday we learned that a Yr 9 had tested positive and asked 13 pupils to isolate as a result.

In secondary schools, Public Health asks us to look at the close contacts of a pupil rather than sending a whole class home. This means that we go through a thorough risk assessment with the pupil and family and check who they sit next to in class, their friendship group, who they spend lunch with, who they travel home with and so on. We then check all these details with Public Health and the decisions about who to ask to isolate.

Please let me reassure you that we are very cautious about taking care to send home close contacts. Public Health have gone through risk assessments with us and are very satisfied with what we are doing in school in response to new cases.

Unfortunately, we are still having instances where families are sending their children into school while someone in the family is waiting for a test.

Please follow the following advice:

1. If anyone in the family has symptoms of Covid, however mild or short lived, everyone in the household must isolate and stay at home.
2. Anyone with symptoms should arrange a test and should only go out again if the test result is negative.
3. Do not send pupils into school while you are waiting for a test result. This risks spreading the virus in school.
4. If you have to isolate because of being a close contact of a confirmed case, the isolation period is 14 days. Even if the person tests negative during that time, they have to still isolate for 14 days.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact schsec@laretraite.lambeth.sch.uk

If you need to report a confirmed case of Covid at the weekend, please email covidreport@laretraite.lambeth.sch.uk as soon as you know.

Kind regards,

Mrs Thompson

Deputy Headteacher