

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

**Coronavirus – What Step 4 Changes Mean for our Schools**

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12 July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July. This is the end of term date for most schools across the country. St Cuthbert's RC Academy Trust of Schools do not finish until Wednesday 21 July. Following advice from Public Health England, due to rising levels of COVID cases in the city, all current COVID control measures at your child's school will remain in place until the end of term on Wednesday 21 July. For avoidance of doubt, this includes the wearing of facemasks for secondary staff, students and visitors in internal spaces where social distancing cannot be achieved, and school-based contact tracing.

From Thursday 22 July, our education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

Yours sincerely

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