



All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy

Head Teacher: C Cuomo

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“We shall serve.”

Mark 10:45 - *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

11 January 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

I thought that I would write to you after our first week of Lockdown. First of all, I would like to thank you for the many supportive, caring and considerate messages that have been sent to us. They really are most gratefully received and help to maintain morale. The staff at All Saints' have worked tirelessly to ensure that all children are able to access a 'live' lesson for every single subject. Their timetables have remained the same since September and this plan will continue until we are given notification that schools can return to normal. The vast majority of our learners have been present in all 'live' lessons and we are closely monitoring students' attendance to ensure that there is full engagement from children while working from home.

If your child is ill, please let school know as soon as possible using the normal channels of communication. May I also remind you that children of Critical Workers are able to send their child(ren) to school and a full complement of school buses continues to function. With regards to the school day itself, there is one slight adjustment to the school day. We have decided not to run the Progress Period during this Period of Lockdown. The School day will now finish at 3.05pm instead of the normal 3.35pm. All school bus companies have been notified and this change will continue until further notice. The main structure of the day will remain unchanged.

As mentioned in our video, A'level and GCSE examinations have been cancelled. School Leaders have been invited to take part in a consultation process with Ofqual in order to create a suitable system of assessments to replace these public examinations. This process will last for two weeks. In short, we will soon have a stronger understanding as to how schools are able to accurately predict grades for their students. In the meantime, there is one simple message and that is 'business as usual'. It is of paramount importance that all children attend their 'live' lessons, complete all set tasks to the best of their ability and respond proactively to any assessments or tests which are administered by their teacher.

The Year 8 Options process has been postponed and further information, advice and guidance will be provided to those children and parents in due course. This was mentioned in the SLT video.

Our Programme of Lateral Flow Covid-19 testing started on Thursday afternoon and we hope to test the children (currently attending school) whose parents have granted them permission at some point this week. Once again, if you would like your child to be tested, please respond to the relevant email so that we can plan accordingly, this information is also on the school website in the main newsfeed. Young people aged 16 or over are able to grant their own permission as per governmental guidance.

A new voucher system has been reintroduced for Free School Meal children and these families will receive further information in due course.

"The school is a cohesive and inclusive community characterised by pupils who are highly respectful of each other and very polite. The overall achievement of pupils has remained strong and pupils make good progress overall."

In the meantime, if you need any help or support during these challenging times with any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please rest assured that we will do everything possible to ensure that your child receives the most meaningful experience possible. We will continue to pray for all those affected by this terrible pandemic in the hope that some form of normality will be able to resume very soon.

My very best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Cuomo', with a small flourish at the end.

Carlo Cuomo
Headteacher