

ALL SAINTS'

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



Parent Bulletin – w/b 06/11/23

Thought for the Week: Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind. Psalm 26:2 NIV

Reminders/information:

All Saints' Way – This week's All Saints' way theme continues to be Aspire! We encourage students to aspire to be the best academically and socially. Students are also being encouraged to work hard to support their Houses. This week sees Industria (Y7) versus Caritas (Y8). Good luck to both Houses!



Sporting Success

Congratulations to the girl's netball team who competed in a tournament before half term. Although the event was a festival, and team placings were not given, the girls won every match they played. As always, they were a credit to our school.

Mock exams

We want to wish the Year 11s and 13s good luck for the mock exams starting this week. We hope that all of your hard work and revision pays off.

Uniform donations

UNIFORM DONATIONS

Do you have any old school uniform you no longer need and could be used by others?

We are collecting any uniform and PE kit that is clean and in good condition.

Items can be dropped off at reception

Safeguarding update

You might have heard about county lines. It's where gangs exploit children to transport and sell drugs. It can put children in a lot of danger and affect their mental wellbeing. Read the attached factsheet to make sure you know what signs you should look out for, and what you should do if you're worried about your child.

Free School Meals - Derbyshire County Council administers the applications for **Free School Meals** for students studying at All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy.

Please use the link below to apply.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

If your child is in receipt of **Free School Meals**, you may be able to receive support with payments for school trips and uniform. If you are unsure whether you are entitled to claim, please complete the eligibility form on the website to check.

If you experience any difficulties please let us know and we will ask Derbyshire County Council to assist.

Personal Development:

- 1. Wellbeing – Homework follow up:** During the last week before breaking up for half-term, we delivered a session to students, during tutor time, based on the ITV project linked to October's World Mental Health day.
Students were set a homework task to write down a subject they find difficult and to share this with a trusted adult at home. Was this completed? Please email any feedback on this.
For more information please click the link: [Britain Get Talking | Home \(itv.com\)](https://www.britaingettalking.com/).
Information includes: 'Top tips for having difficult conversations.'
- Wellbeing reminder:** Please remember that the link on our website is: [Wellbeing - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield](#). In addition, if you have any questions or specific concerns regarding your child's wellbeing then please email the address: wellbeing@allsaints.notts.sch.uk.
- 2. Careers update – Green Careers Week.** Please find attached: The Parents' Guide to GCW 2023, for Green Careers Week. Students will be watching a range of video's looking at various careers linked to GCW, during tutor time this week.
- You can also visit our school website:** [Careers - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield](#).

Upcoming events: (details of each event will be sent out to the relevant parents nearer the time).

Please see the Parent and Carer Planner on the next page. This is also available on the school website in the parent section.

Parent and Carer Planner 2023-2024

Students finish school on Friday 20 th Oct and return to school on Tuesday 7th November. (Includes INSET Day on Monday 6 th November).	
Tuesday 7 th November (All week)	Year 11 Mock Exams begin
Monday 13 th November (All week)	Year 11 and Year 13 Mock Exams
Monday 20 th November (All week)	Year 13 Mock Exams
INSET Day on Monday 4 th December- Students not in school.	
Thursday 14 th December	Year 13 Mock Results Morning
Friday 15 th December	Year 11 Mock Results Morning
Monday 18 th December	Year 12 and 13 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person
Students finish school on Friday 22 nd Dec and return to school on Thursday 4th January.	
Week beginning 8 th January 2024	Year 7-10 Data Information. Year 7 Reports.
Monday 8 th January (All week)	Year 11 Mock Speaking Exams for MFL
Tuesday 16 th January	Year 11 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person
Week beginning 22 nd January	Year 8 Reports
Wednesday 31 st January	Year 8 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person
Wednesday 7 th February	Year 8 Options Afternoon
Wednesday 7 th February	Year 8 Options Information for Parents. Online
Wednesday 7 th February	Year 11 Drama Exam
Thursday 8 th February	Year 11 Drama Exam
INSET Day on Friday 9 th February- Students not in school. Students return to school on Monday 19th February.	
Wednesday 21 st February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Monday 26 th February (All week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Monday 4 th March until 12 th March	Year 12 Exams
Thursday 7 th March	Year 7 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Thursday 21 st March	School Show
Friday 22 nd March	School Show
Thursday 28 th March	Year 11, 13 and 12 Data Drop Year 12 Reports
Students break up on Thursday 28 th March and return to school on Monday 15th April.	
Week beginning 15 th April	Year 7 to 10 Data
Monday 15 th April until 26 th April	Year 11 MFL Speaking Exams (Actual)
Monday 22 nd April	Year 10 Exams Week
Monday 6 th May - Bank Holiday	
Monday 13 th May	GCSE and A-Level External Exams Begin
Friday 10 th May	Year 11 Drama Exam
Monday 13 th May (All Week)	Year 9 Exams Week
Monday 20 th May	Year 10 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Week beginning 20 th May	Year 10 Exam Results and Report
Friday 24 th May	Year 13 Leavers' Mass
Students break up on Friday 24 th May and return to school on Monday 3rd June.	
Week beginning 17 th June	Year 9 Exam Results and Report
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 9 Progress Evening for Parents. Online
Friday 21 st June	Year 13 Prom
Monday 24 th June (All Week)	Year 12 Exams
Thursday 27 th June	6 th Form Information Evening for Year 10. In Person
Friday 28 th June	Provisional end date for Year 11 and 13 External Exams.
Monday 1 st July	Provisional Sports Day
Friday 5 th July	Year 11 Prom
Week beginning Monday 8 th July	Year 7 to 10 Data
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 12 Exam Results
Friday 26 th July	Students break up for the Summer.

County lines: what you need to know

Children of all ages and backgrounds are at risk of being exploited by criminal gangs who'll use them to transport drugs and money around the country. Understand what county lines is and the signs to look out for.

What is county lines?

- › A child is 'groomed' by a criminal gang, then exploited to transport drugs and money from one area (county) to another – usually from an urban location to a rural or coastal one. Grooming can happen in person, or online on social media apps like Snapchat
 - › The child may be trafficked to the gang's 'trap houses' or 'bandos' miles away from home, to find 'customers', deal with rival gangs and sell drugs
 - › The child is likely to face violence and sexual exploitation
 - › The 'lines' refer to the dedicated mobile phone lines that gangs use for selling drugs
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Is my child at risk?

Criminal gangs are known to target:

- › **Children with vulnerabilities**, such as poverty, family breakdown, exclusion from school – because they're more likely to respond to manipulation and coercion
- › **Children from stable or affluent families** – because they're less likely to be known to the police and may blend in better in the town the gang sends them to
- › **Girls and young children** – children as young as 7 are being groomed by gangs, and girls are often groomed into relationships with gang members or used to transport drugs as they're less likely to be stopped by the police

However, **any child is vulnerable to exploitation.**

What signs should I look out for?

Potential signs that a child is involved in county lines include:

- › Leaving home without explanation
- › Returning home late, staying out all night or going missing
- › Being found in areas away from home
- › Being secretive about who they're talking to and where they are going
- › Persistently going missing from school or college
- › Receiving unexplained money, phone(s), clothes or jewellery
- › Receiving excessive texts/phone calls and/or owning multiple handsets
- › Forming relationships with controlling/older individuals or groups
- › Using sexual, drug-related or violent language you wouldn't expect them to know
- › Showing increasingly disruptive or aggressive behaviour
- › Coming home with injuries or looking particularly messy

- Owning hotel cards or keys to unknown places
- Taking drugs, or being found with large amounts of drugs on them

Noticing any of these signs doesn't mean your child is being exploited through county lines. However, you should still talk to them about any concerns you have.

What should I do if I suspect my child is being exploited?

Talk to your child, stay calm and ask questions about what is going on, reassuring them you want to keep them safe. Try to be open, honest and non-judgemental – remember, they may be scared.

If you are still concerned, seek help straight away - there are organisations that can help you. You could do any of the following, **but you must tell someone**:

- Contact our school. Ask to speak to the **designated safeguarding lead** and explain your concerns to them. They will be able to advise you where to go next
- Report your concerns to children's social care. A social worker will be able to listen to your concerns and help you to protect your child
- Contact your local police station or call 101. If your child is missing, remember you don't have to wait 24 hours before making a report
- Contact organisations such as:
 - Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111
 - NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
 - Family Lives: 0808 800 2222

Sources

- [What is county lines? The Children's Society](https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/child-criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines/what-is-county-lines)
https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/child-criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines/what-is-county-lines
- [Keeping children safe in education, GOV.UK – Department for Education](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2)
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
- [County lines, Fearless](https://www.fearless.org/en/campaigns/county-lines)
https://www.fearless.org/en/campaigns/county-lines
- [Rescue and response pan-London county lines service, Greater London Authority](https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service)
https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service
- [County lines, National Crime Agency](https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines)
https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines
- [County lines: information for parents, Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership](https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/4206.1-County-lines-leaflet-final-web.pdf)
https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/4206.1-County-lines-leaflet-final-web.pdf

This factsheet was produced by [The Key Safeguarding](http://www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding): www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding

If you believe your child is in immediate danger, or a threat is made against you or another family member, **call 999 immediately**.

The Parents' Guide to

GCW 2023

For Green Careers Week



**THE
PARENTS'
GUIDE TO**

National Careers Week

NCW

GCW
GREEN CAREERS WEEK

STEM
LEARNING