



# All Saints Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mr A. McGuinness

1 st June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As always, I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. Thank you for your continued support.

Communication between home and school is always important but even more so at this time. May I ask you to regularly check the school website for updated information and we will send out text messages as the need arises. We also share information using the school Twitter and Facebook accounts which many families find useful.

The most effective way to contact any staff member is to email [info@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:info@allsaintschs.org.uk) or by phoning the school on 0151 477 8740. I have a small team of staff on site each day – taking calls, responding to answer phone messages and replying to queries on the info email account. If you have queries concerning student work, please contact your child's Progress Leader in the first instance.

Year 7 - Mr Clark - [mclark@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:mclark@allsaintschs.org.uk)  
Year 8 - Mr Emmett - [memmett@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:memmett@allsaintschs.org.uk)  
Year 9 - Mrs Towler - [ktowler@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:ktowler@allsaintschs.org.uk)  
Year 10 - Miss Cashen - [acashen@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:acashen@allsaintschs.org.uk)  
Year 11 - Mrs Glover - [sglover@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:sglover@allsaintschs.org.uk)  
Year 12/13 - Mrs Riley - [mriley@allsaintschs.org.uk](mailto:mriley@allsaintschs.org.uk)

Staff are, on the whole, working from home and therefore using their personal mobile phones to make work calls. Because of that, a call from a member of staff will show on your phone as 'No Caller ID'. Please be mindful that we need you to answer the phone if we are to help resolve an issue that is concerning you.

## Update on the current situation:

Firstly, I will take this opportunity to remind you that government guidance for full year groups returning to school on the 1st of June at the earliest referred to certain year groups in primary schools and not secondary schools.

Regarding secondary schools, the government only referred to current **Year 10 and Year 12 students**. They did not state that all Year 10 students would return to school. They referred to the possibility of an approach that involved some face to face time with Year 10 students before

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summer. Any face to face between staff and Year 10 that may occur will not be before June the

15th at the earliest. We are currently exploring different approaches to that face to face time. Of course, any decision related to your child is yours and we will work with you if you require guidance and support. Once we have agreed how the face-to-face will operate at All Saints, we will communicate this directly with the parents / carers of our Year 10 and 12 pupils. From Monday 1st June Yr 10 will have 4 hours per week of Maths, English and Science, 2 hour per week for Option Subjects and RE and 1 hour per week for PSHE - through Google Classroom.

## Years 7, 8 and 9

I know that it must be difficult for students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 who are coming to terms with the fact that they will almost certainly not return to school until September 2020 at the earliest. After half term we will continue to set work, make contact and generally support where we can in these challenging circumstances. Google Classroom will therefore remain the main mechanism we will use to set regular work for pupils.

Quantity of work set each week:

Year 7

2 hours per week of Maths, English and Science

1 hour per week for all other subjects including PSHE

Year 8

2 hours per week of Maths, English and Science

1 hour per week for all other subjects including PSHE

Year 9

4 hours per week of Maths, English and Science

2 hour per week for Option Subjects

1 hour per week for PSHE

Google Classroom Update: I want to reassure you that the work set by our teachers is linked directly with the schemes of work that students would be following if they were in school. Of course, we know that there is no substitute for face to face learning in the classroom and I look forward to the day when normality resumes. However, we are really pleased with the vast number of pupils who are accessing their school work through 'Google Classroom'. This will remain the main mechanism for setting work until a full reopening of the school takes place.

The school's website has information for parents and pupils regarding accessing the work and general guidance. We are looking to develop further the use of Google Classroom during the first part of this half term – including more assessment for each piece of work set.

Year 8 into 9 options decision – due to the loss of curriculum time we have decided to defer option decisions until the new academic year begins. An options evening will be calendared for 4 th November 2020 and Year 9 students will start their options in January 2021.

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## Support for critical workers and vulnerable pupils

The government has asked schools to provide provision for a very limited number of pupils, including children of key workers who cannot be cared for safely at home. **Children of key workers should only come to school if they cannot be cared for safely at home and there is no other safe alternative.** It is not compulsory for children of key workers to attend school during the period of closure.

Please do not send your child to school if you are not a key worker. If you believe you fall into this category please contact your child's Progress Leader and request permission to attend.

Most importantly, the well-being of our whole community is of great concern. Some families are dealing with the worry of Covid-19 affecting their loved ones; others are supporting family members who are critical workers on the frontline – each family is faced with its own set of unique circumstances.

We appreciate that parents/carers are doing the best they can to support learning and we certainly don't want school to be a source of stress for you and your child. None of us are perfect and you mustn't feel under additional pressure to become teachers at home. Be kind to yourself; our staff will get your child back on track in due course. Right now, sharing your calm, patience and love with your child and spending time enjoying activities together is needed more than ever.

We are all in this together, united as a community in the face of this most challenging situation, the likes of which none of us has seen in our lifetimes. Hopefully there is light at the end of this tunnel! I have said it before and I will say it again – I am very proud to be the Headteacher of All Saints and I am proud to serve our community, never more so than now.

Yours sincerely

Mr A McGuinness (Headteacher)

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