



# Holy Family Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr M Symes BA(Hons), NPQH

Friday, September 25, 2020

Dear Parent,

Thanks again for your support and cooperation this week. The children continue to be very respectful of each other's safety and learning and are now very used to the routines.

This week's updates include:

## **What happens if there is a confirmed COVID-19 case?**

Unfortunately, on Monday, we had a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Year 8 and the year group are now self-isolating until 1<sup>st</sup> October. Thank you to all the parents in Year 8 for your quick response and cooperation. If it happens again, in any year group, this is our protocol:

- We will contact all parents/carers of children in that year group immediately.
- We will send you a message about what arrangements you will make for your child to get home. You must reply to this message so that we can ensure your child goes home safely. You will have to either come and collect your child from school (either in person or collected by a family friend/relative), or they must walk, cycle, or go home on the school bus. We have been informed that pupils cannot use public transport. If your child uses the school bus, walks, or cycles, they must go straight home and not visit any shops etc.
- We will arrange a deep clean of the areas of the school site used by that year group. Depending on what time of the day the year group is sent home, we may need to close the school the next day to facilitate a deep clean.
- We will inform all parents in other year groups that we have had a confirmed case.
- All pupils in that year group must self-isolate for 14 days. Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate unless their child develops symptoms.
- We will send you an email with details of how your child can access Microsoft Teams and other materials to support their learning at home.
- Your child's lessons and resources will be on Teams for the next two weeks and your child's teacher will be on-line (on Teams) to answer any queries/questions at their normal lesson time. For example, if your child has Maths Period 1 on a Wednesday, their teacher will be on-line to answer questions at that time. If your child does not have access to a device which supports the Teams App, please contact school.
- If your child receives Free School Meals, a 10-day food hamper will be available for you to collect at the school office.

## **Microsoft Teams**

All pupils have had tutorials on how to use our Microsoft Teams learning platform, through their Office 365 email account. Years 7 & 11 have had more detailed lessons on how to navigate and get the most from Teams. Years 9 & 10 will also have these sessions on Monday and Tuesday next week.

### **GCSE/BTEC (Year 11) & A Levels/BTEC (Year 13) - Centre Assessed Grades**

The Department for Education (DfE) are planning on all Year 11 & 13 pupils sitting their exams in the summer of 2021 as normal. However, we have no idea how the rest of this academic year will go and how many disruptions there will be to their learning. Just in case the DfE abandon exams, and ask for schools to award grades to pupils (Centre Assessed Grades), as they did this summer, we are advising all pupils to provide us with as much evidence as possible of their best work and a positive attitude to their learning. This means that if the DfE asked for Centre Assessed Grades, we will have evidence in their schoolbooks, homework's, coursework's, and unit tests etc., which will provide us with the evidence we need to award them the grades they deserve. Hopefully, we will not need to go through this process, and they will all get the chance to sit their exams as normal in the summer.

### **Careers North**

Our careers provider, Careers North, will present our new careers programme to Years 7 & 10 on Monday.

### **Warm, waterproof coats**

As the weather begins to turn, please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat.

### **New website**

Watch out for the launch our new website which will have a much improved mobile version.

Thanks again for your feedback, patience, and cooperation, we really do appreciate your support.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Symes