



**Friday 02 July 2021**

**Headteacher's Update**

As we approach the end of the school year, we are constantly hearing rumours and proposals from the government about how things might change in schools from September. One proposal at present is to remove the need to send close contacts home. I think this is a step we would all welcome. At present however we don't know how this will be achieved. It will involve some form of testing and as soon as we know what this is we will of course inform you.

We are planning on things being as normal as they can be in September whilst of course ensuring everything is kept as safe as possible. It is likely that most restrictions will be removed but we are keeping in place a few of the developments we have had during the past year. For example, we are keeping split breaks and lunchtimes. We are changing the school day to allow for longer lessons, we have an effective one way system in place which allows for much easier movement around the building and this too will be staying.

There will be further information about other changes we are making. This includes a change to the rules on mobile phones (see relevant section in the notices for details). While students can have them at school they must not be seen or used at all while on site from September.

Our best wishes go to any students who are working from home at the moment. We know this isn't easy for anyone involved but until the rules change it is also unavoidable. We really need everyone to be doing the LFT tests each week to ensure they are safe to come in to school. This helps us to avoid having to send any bubbles home.

Our prayers go to the members of our community who continue to lose loved ones to COVID and this serves as a reminder to us all of the need to be safe and follow the rules.

All the very best and have a good weekend

Mr Shields

**Notices**

**COVID Updates**

- If your child has been identified as a close contact, please check their letter for their return to school date. A reminder text will be sent the day before their return date.
- A reminder that LFTs should only be used for regular, asymptomatic testing. If anyone has symptoms or has been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case, then they must take a PCR test (at a COVID testing centre.)
- Symptoms now include sneezing, headaches and feeling sick.

**Catholic Life of the School**

**Weekly Assembly**

This week's assembly will be led by Mrs Hill on the theme of Inclusion.

## Curriculum

### Remote Education

- If your child has a COVID related absence, they must access their lessons via Microsoft Teams. A copy of our remote learning policy is attached.

### Examination Updates to Parents of Year 10 and Year 11 students

- Please read the JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) guidance for parents and students who should have been sitting examinations this summer. [JCQ-Guidance-for-Students-and-Parents-on-Summer-2021.pdf](#).
- The appeals process is now confirmed by the JCQ and will be shared with you via a separate communication in due course.
- Please email Mrs Hill if you have any individual/further questions [stah03@scrchs.com](mailto:stah03@scrchs.com)

### Pastoral Notices

- Thank you to all parents who continue to support us with our high expectations on uniform as we approach the end of the year. Please remind your child that they must have a school bag each day.
- **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July:** the school will have an early finish as we break up for the summer holidays. Students will finish at 12pm, further details to follow.
- **Updates for September 2021:**  
Our school gates will open from **7.55am** in the morning from September.

Mobile phones will **NOT** be allowed to be used at any point during the school day once students are on site. This includes at social times or whilst moving to classes. We understand students will have their phones to travel to and from school but they must switch them off and keep them out of sight during the day. If parents need to contact their child or students need to contact home this will be possible using the school phones. Mobile phones that are seen will be confiscated immediately. Students will be informed of this in assemblies over the next couple of weeks.

Parents will be able to reference our mobile phone policy on the website before the end of term.

- Please ensure your child has a suitable face covering to wear in all communal areas. The wearing of face masks is compulsory on all public transport.

### Wellbeing

- Please see the wellbeing area on our website (<https://www.scrchs.net/wellbeing>) which contains information on how to support you and your child's wellbeing.

### Community

- Please can you speak with you child about the importance of wearing face masks in public areas such as local shops and the public buses (409).
- Students who walk to school are kindly reminded of the community they live in respecting the environment by not dropping litter or causing a disruption for our local residents.

### Twitter

- Please follow us on @RcCuthberts to keep up to date on all that is going on at St Cuthbert's.

