



2nd October 2020

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

I hope everyone is well. We send our best wishes in particular to any of our community who have COVID-19 or who are having to self-isolate because of COVID-19. From Monday October 5th all students can access their lessons from home if they are self-isolating using Microsoft Teams. Many have already been doing so this week. There are more details of this later in this update and on the document attached to this. You can also find videos explaining how remote learning works on our website. This can also be seen by clicking on the following link: <https://scrchs.net/news/2020-10-02-remote-learning-assembly-2nd-october-2020>

Our absolute focus is on ensuring that no student is disadvantaged because of having to go home. The learning and wellbeing of our students is the priority at all times even if they are not in school. We are fortunate now that we can continue to help with both regardless of the situation.

At St Cuthbert's we continue to gradually return to normal. We have re-introduced study hall to help Year 11 students to prepare for their exams and we are looking at very soon re-introducing food being available from the dining room at break times too.

In the next few weeks there will be a remote information evening which will help all parents to understand exactly what their children are learning and how they can help them to do so. These will cover all of the different curriculum areas but they will also help you to see and understand better what we are doing to help our students and to keep them safe.

We have had to send home students in year 9 and some in year 7 this week. At all times we follow Public Health England guidance on these matters and school remains a safe place as the issue did not originate here. We thank you for your continued support and best wishes and together as a community we will ensure that your children continue to be kept safe and receive the best possible education they can at all times.

REMOTE LEARNING

Our staff are working very hard in ensuring that our remote education aligns as closely as possible to in school provision. Our curriculum remains broad and ambitious and will follow student's individual timetables.

It is, therefore, essential that students engage in their remote learning and complete and submit work as requested by their class teachers.

Today we broadcast an assembly to all students which outlined our expectations for remote learning and shared further instruction on how to access this, should students need to. This assembly has been shared with all parents and carers and is available on the school website.

Please see the attached parent information sheet which outlines:

- Remote Learning Lesson Structure
- Applications used in remote learning with links to user guides
- Student protocol for your child to follow if accessing remote learning

NOTICES

- Please complete the consent form for your son / daughter to leave school in the event of a COVID-19 partial closure or any other reason for school closure. If you do not wish to consent to this please ensure you are contactable immediately and able to come to school and collect your child quickly.
- Can all parents please ensure that in the event of a partial school closure that your son / daughter knows how to get home as there have been a few students who have said they have no idea how to. Unfortunately with the COVID situation as it is, there is an absolute need for everyone to be prepared to respond to having to go home at any point.
- Please ensure that if your child has symptoms or anyone in your household does, they are kept off school until a test result is obtained. Under no circumstances should anyone be sent to school if they or anyone in the household has symptoms of COVID-19.
- It is essential that all students are in **correct PE kit**. Details of this can be found on the school website and on the school Facebook page. Some students have taken to wearing items which are clearly not acceptable items of clothing and this must stop. Details of where the correct kit can be purchased are on the website.
- Whilst in form there will be both **equipment** (including bags) and uniform checks. Students must also have a reading book with them
- **Parent Pay** - Please ensure your child's parent pay accounts are checked regularly to ensure they have sufficient funds at the start of the week to be able to purchase food. Students are not allowed to go overdrawn.
- **Dropping off & collecting your child** – Please try to drop off and collect children away from the school gates. This is to ensure everyone is safe and buses can have clear access.
- **Punctuality** – Please ensure your child is in school **by 8.20am**. Our gates are closed at this time so that we can ensure all additional safety measures that are in place are followed. We do, however, appreciate there may sometimes be exceptional circumstances why your child may be late.
- **Buses** – The Department of Education have updated school guidance regarding the wearing of face coverings on 1/10/20 stating: Children aged 11 and over are legally required to wear a face covering on public transport in England, unless exempt for health, age or disability reasons. Please remind your child that masks should be worn at all times on their journey to & from school, failure to comply with the TfGM transport rules may result in a bus ban.
- **Social distancing** - We would like to thank all students and parents who are adhering to the social distancing restrictions at this time. Can we kindly ask parents to remind your child of social distancing out of school hours and on their journey home especially if they are collecting siblings from other local primary schools or if they are in and around any recreational areas, in particular the Balderstone Park area.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- October / November: Virtual Information Evenings for all parents in all year groups. Exact dates to be confirmed
- October 5th: All students at home with a COVID related absence must access remote learning via Teams as shown on the school website and the attached document.