



St. Cuthbert's

Roman Catholic High School

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

We would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to all our families who have ensured their son or daughter has had a positive term in times where as parents, staff and young people we continue to navigate ourselves through the difficult times.

The Christmas period will be a welcomed break for us all in hope that we are able to celebrate this one with our family and friends allowing for a well-deserved rest ahead of the Spring Term.

Arrangements for the last day of term: Friday 17th December

School will close to all students at **12 noon**.

This will also be our Christmas Jumper/Christmas Accessories Day where students can wear their own clothes with a Christmas theme. We will celebrate their success this term through remote year group rewards assemblies and a remote whole school collective worship.

Any student who has outstanding detentions will be taken out of the form period to complete these.

The following buses will run at 12 noon from the school bus bay:

890 Birch Hill

891 Shore

894 Littleborough

887 Lane Head

Services that will not be running at 12 noon, are:

862 Syke

867 Falinge

880 Norden

There will be two 409 buses in our school bus bay for any child who needs to use this service but please could you ensure you have made suitable travel arrangements for your son/daughter.

At St. Cuthbert's we continue to work within the parameters set by the DfE; having re-introduced masks in all communal areas and preparing for testing on the first day back in January.

We will also be using our return in January as an opportunity to re-set our expectations in relation to movement around the school, punctuality to school and lessons and how students interact with each other and staff. This is following on from the work we have done this term relating to Peer on Peer Abuse and respect towards each other.

Students in our surveys have told us that they are frustrated by students arriving late to school and disturbing their learning as well as those students who do not travel immediately to class.

Our school gates close at 8.20am so that students are sat ready to learn at 8.25am; being 5 minutes late each day equates to three full school days lost.

There will be a detention every Wednesday for 5P's (PREP, PRIDE, PUNCTUALITY, PARTICIPATION, POLITENESS).

With regards to movement around the school site, we are unable to widen corridors or stairwells so a one-way system is in place. Our students have told us that this has helped immensely reduce congestion when moving to class. However, at times, a minority of students do display boisterous behaviour in these communal areas when returning from break or dinner. Any poor conduct (pushing, running, gathering in groups that creates a block, not lining up outside classrooms) will result in an immediate 30-minute detention for Poor Conduct.

Peer on Peer Abuse Survey

We would like to thank all our students who engaged with the Peer on Peer Abuse survey as this is now the basis to our work in how all our students interact and support each other. Whilst some had experienced such sexual harassment the majority of this has taken place outside of school. Our assemblies, Skills for Life lessons and Form Tutor Programme will begin to address the comments students have raised. One of which is their interaction with each other and staff.

We have experienced some students forgetting that they are in a school setting and interacting with peers and staff as though they are outside of school.

All interactions should be with respect and we ask that parents support us with speaking to their child about doing as they are asked first time. Any verbal abuse towards staff or each other will be dealt with through our Reflect centre. Any poor language heard in class or on the corridors will result in an immediate 30-minute detention.

Any student who refuses to follow instructions will be placed in Reflect, if they continue to refuse to comply, parents will be asked to attend the school.

Detentions have now been split into KS3 (Years 7/8/9) and KS4 (Years 10/11) and will run on the following evenings:

KS3 – Tuesday & Friday

KS4 – Monday & Thursday

We will be conducting a full review of our behaviour policy and system over the next six months in preparation for September 2022.

January 2022 Return to School:

The school is closed on **Tuesday 4th January 2022** for a teacher training day.

All students are to return on **Wednesday 5th January 2022** at the normal time, 8.20am.

Students will be lined up before entering the building and will spend the first two lessons of the day with their form tutors so that they fully understand the expectations of them as outlined in the letter above. Please ensure your child has a coat as this will continue throughout the week to ensure a good start to the school day.

Our expectations regarding uniform, facial piercings, artificial nails/eye lashes can be found below for our return in January as we are aware a number of students will have these over the Christmas break.

Students **MUST** be in full school uniform, please refer to our [uniform list](#), and attend school with the correct equipment and a suitable school bag.

Students should not be in trainers (black Nike Air Force One). Students should have all facial piercings removed as well as false/artificial nails and false eye lashes.

Covid Testing:

Secondary schools have been asked to conduct testing on the first day back after the Christmas break. This will be led by Mrs Fairbrother. If you have previously consented for testing in September this consent will be used. Year 7 parents have been sent a separate email regarding consent.

Should you wish to amend your consent for January testing, please click the link. The deadline for this is **Monday 13th December**. <https://forms.office.com/r/LWQ4KZQCRs>

Please encourage your child to complete lateral flow tests twice a week over the Christmas period. Test kits can be collected during form time each day.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming our students back in the New Year.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Logan
Senior Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)