

27 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

As we move into week six of the national lockdown I would like to write to share with you some key messages.

St Michael's continues to act upon and respond to government advice and daily updates. As you know on Monday 23 March St. Michael's Catholic Academy closed for general provision of Education. We have and will continue to remain open for educating vulnerable students and children of key workers. I would like to thank you for the tremendous support you have shown during this unprecedented time.

Your continued support in encouraging your child to engage with regular timetabled sessions via the TEAMS online platform is hugely appreciated. There has been a remarkable response and the support from students, parents and staff, who are at hand to help with any questions you have, has been tremendous. Thank you.

During the lockdown period Cleveland Police are warning parents and carers to be vigilant when allowing children to use mobile phones and tablets unattended. Children are likely to be reliant on the internet to keep in touch with friends using different apps. Cleveland Police have produced a short clip from their Cyber Crime Team on how to keep your child safe <https://bit.ly/2VRGQ2p> Further information can also be found by visiting www.nspcc.org.uk or www.nationalonlinesafety.com

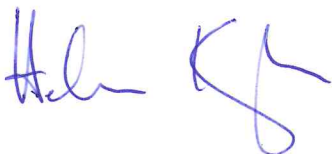
In these unsettling times it is important for everyone to feel connected to the school community and for this reason we have re-launched our St. Michael's Facebook page. On here we will share with you regular updates and news stories to help you stay connected.

For our Year 11 students this is a time of great uncertainty as they will have many questions regarding their GCSEs. However, I would like to reassure students that we are working on grades to be fair based on what they would have achieved had they sat their exam this summer.

I know many of you have recently contacted school regarding trips and visits that are planned in the near future. The travel companies will not make any decision until 30 days before the date of departure, therefore we will be updating you as we receive more information.

Thank you as always for your partnership and commitment, take care, be safe and stay strong.

With all good wishes,



Mrs H Keough
Acting Head of School