



# St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

Prepare the way of the Lord

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2 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the recent Government guidance update, I am now in a position to give you more details of our partial school opening for Year 10 pupils.

First of all, I would like to make it clear that the safety of our pupils and staff has been paramount when planning for the partial re-opening of the school. Whilst I know that the pupils will find the next few weeks rather strange, I am sure they will quickly adjust and realise that the school's plan aims to keep everyone as safe as possible and make days spent in school a worthwhile educational experiences for all.

I understand that this letter contains a lot of information. However, further details of groupings and timetables will be given as soon as the names of pupils attending are confirmed. If you then need additional guidance, please do not hesitate to contact school.

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**Orientation Week** will commence on **15 June 2020**. Staff and pupils will attend on different days to be introduced to the rules and procedures that have been put in place.

Monday 15 June 2020 and Tuesday 16 June 2020 will be **STAFF orientation** days.

**Wednesday 18 June 2020 or Thursday 19 June 2020: PUPILS will be invited into school** for either an **8.55am–10.55am** OR **11.10am–1.10pm** session - (*timetables for individual pupils will be issued once the names of pupils expected to attend have been confirmed.*)

Please note that **if any pupil does not attend the orientation sessions** on either Wednesday 18 June or Thursday 19 June 2020, he/she **cannot attend sessions during the following four weeks**. This is to ensure that all measures to ensure social distancing and all other safety procedures are met. Pupils will come home after their orientation sessions with packs of information containing their timetables and all the **rules and health and safety procedures** they must follow which will have been explained to them by their form tutors.

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## **Face to Face Support in 'Bubbles' with Subject Teachers**

From **Monday 22 June 2020**, pupils will attend in groups of around 40 pupils. These will be their allocated 'bubbles'. Each bubble group will be in school for 1 day a week for three of the weeks and twice a week for one of the weeks until the school term finishes on Friday 17 July 2020.

The days will run from approximately 8.55am – 1.00pm and pupils will have two sessions of English/Maths/Science and one session of all their other subjects. Each session will be a double period. As we are planning to have a staggered supervised break time with a small number of pupils during each session and are staggering the exit from school we cannot give exact finishing times, but this will follow with the individual timetables.



### Arrangements for the School Day

We cannot have a 'normal' school day with a lunch time as it would be impossible to ensure social distancing rules are met, hence the 1.00pm finish.

We plan to set **staggered drop off and pick up times** to reduce the number of people on the school site at any one time and avoid crowding at school entrances and exits, so that everyone can keep to a safe distance. The pupils will enter and exit school in **groups of 10 at 5-minute intervals**, keeping **2 metres apart** at all times. Your son/daughter will be allocated **an entry time** between approximately 8.35am to 8.50am. Upon arrival, he/she will go straight to the classroom allocated for session one. They will also be allocated **an exit time** from approximately 1.00pm. If the times allocated to your son/daughter present any kind of issue for you, please get in touch with **Mrs Morris** to discuss alternative arrangements. (These times will be allocated once names of the students attending have been confirmed.)

### Travelling to School

If possible, we would like to encourage pupils to **walk or cycle to school**. Where this is not possible and you will be bringing your son/daughter by car, **please stay in the car** on the car park and wait for your son/daughter. Please do not call into reception unless you have a prior appointment as the reception area is not big enough to maintain social distancing rules. Please note **Government guidance is not to use public transport unless absolutely necessary**, but if there is no alternative then please encourage your son/daughter to follow the guidance [Click here](#)

### Uniform

Pupils **must wear school uniform** when they attend school, but do not need to wear their school **blazers**. Please ensure that clothes worn in school are **washed after each day's attendance**.

### Covid-19 Symptoms

Any children showing symptoms of being unwell at home, **MUST NOT** come to school for their scheduled sessions. They **should be tested as soon as possible** and school informed of the result. If any pupils become unwell whilst they are in school, we will contact parents to pick them up as soon as possible. If any of the pupils test positive for Covid-19, we will immediately **contact all pupils in the 'bubble group' and ask them to self-isolate for 14 days**, even if they are not showing any symptoms.

### Good Behaviour

**Revised expectations of behaviour and codes of practice** will be clearly explained to all students on orientation days. **Compliance is essential** to ensure the safety and well-being of all staff and pupils. We will ask the parents of any pupils found willfully breaking any of the rules or disregarding procedures to pick them up as soon as possible.

More details about all these arrangements will be provided in due course. While they may initially seem a little overwhelming, I hope that they are also reassuring. All of these measures have been put in place to maintain the safety of everyone in school.

Thank you for your continued support, which is always greatly appreciated and I look forward to welcoming your son or daughter back to school soon.

Yours faithfully



**M J DUMICAN**  
Headteacher