



ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

DEVELOPING THE WHOLE PERSON

Mid-Week Parental Bulletin

23rd February 2021

I trust that both our students and parents have had a well-deserved rest during half term.

We are pleased to receive government guidance for the opening of schools from the 8th March, we fundamentally believe that the best place for all our students and staff is within the school environment. For full details please follow the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mass-testing-for-secondary-pupils-as-all-schools-and-colleges-fully-reopenfrom8-march>

Over the next few days, I will be writing to you with our plans for students returning.

Asymptomatic Testing

Our asymptomatic testing centre has now been fully operational since the beginning of January with staff on site being tested twice a week. This testing together with social distancing will be important in protecting our community as a whole. Whilst I still await further details, we know that we will require parental permission for this testing. If you have not yet filled in our form, I would ask you to use the following [LINK](#).

Following the Guidelines and Keeping School Informed

We are well aware of the pressure that families are under, but we ask families to continue to adhere to the lockdown restrictions and refrain from socialising with others outside of their bubble. We clearly want to avoid a delay in the reopening of school which could be affected by any families breaking the local lockdown restrictions. The virus is still very much in our communities and we know that some of our families are currently isolating and shielding. We all need to ensure we do all we can to facilitate a safe return to school.

If you have any concerns about the above, and/or if there any changes to your home circumstances, or you feel that your child may not be able to return to school on the week of the 8th March, please can you contact your Head of Year directly.

Public Examinations

I am sure that both parents and students of the examination year groups are keenly awaiting Gavin Williamson's next release regarding the grading this summer - we anticipate this by the end of the week. In the meantime, parents of Y11 will be attending the consultation evening this Thursday 25th February. We will provide guidance as soon as we can.

Finally, many thanks as always for all your support and kind words which are hugely appreciated. I wish you and your families well for this half term and look forward to seeing the children back in school.

G T O'Connor BSc (Hons) NPQH
Principal