



St Aidan's Catholic Academy

*'We believe that God has created each person
to celebrate life to the full'*



'Where excellence is a habit'

13th July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

In the current uncertain climate for schools, we wished to reassure you of our plans for students who are due to return or join us for the first time in September 2020. I am delighted to inform you that St Aidan's will be opening fully in the first week of September with a staggered start in operation. We will be welcoming the following year groups back full time on these dates:

Year 7 and 12 – Wednesday the 2nd September 2020

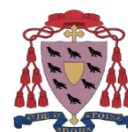
Year 10 and 11 – Thursday the 3rd September 2020

Year 8, 9 and 13 - Friday 4th September 2020

We are really looking forward to welcoming your son to our school and to working with him, but obviously the landscape of the school has changed somewhat due to recent events. I wish to reassure you that our staff have been tirelessly preparing over a number of weeks for re-opening to ensure that our plans are in accordance with the latest secondary school specific guidance. The school has produced detailed risk assessments, to mitigate against the transmission of the virus, in line with DfE and public health guidance. Detailed guidance is available on the website: School Reopening: Essential Documentation. To ensure that parents and students are fully informed prior to commencement of the Autumn term, we have also produced a summary document which is attached. We hope that the attached procedures will support you and your family as you prepare for your son's return to school in September. It is vital that you read the accompanying documentation and that you discuss the new procedures with your son to ensure he fully understands the necessary changes we have had to make to secure the safest of environments for all.

The most significant change that your son will experience will be the use of 'bubble' areas within the school. In order to minimize risk, the academy has separated the site into five separate year group areas (bubbles). Each bubble has physical partitions that cannot be crossed and each bubble has its own entrance, exit, toilets and hand-sanitiser facilities. The bubble structure helps the school to reduce the number of people, students and staff have contact with each day therefore ensuring the safety of all in the community. I can reassure you that within each 'bubble' teaching and learning will continue to be of the very highest standard. We acknowledge that it will be unusual to begin with, but we are sure that after a short period of time, your son will consider it second nature.

It is equally important to observe the transport and 'arriving at school' information. We strongly advise students to arrive at the designated time for their 'bubble' to ensure safety. We understand that new Year 7 parents particularly will be anxious to see their son into school at the start of the day and to collect at the end of the day, however under the circumstances, we request that parents avoid congregating at the school gates. Again, it is vital that you read the attached information so you can coordinate your family plans around this.



A member of
Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust



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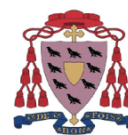
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As mentioned before, we are fully satisfied that St Aidan's complies with health and safety measures around coronavirus. With this in mind, your son will be expected to attend full-time from his designated start date in September. Within the document you will also find information about what to do should your son or someone in your family fall ill. Again, it is very important that you follow this advice to maintain the safety of all students and staff.

We hope that you and your family have a peaceful Summer holiday after this unprecedented time, and we look forward to welcoming your son in September. Should you have any questions or concerns in the interim please get in touch and I will endeavor to answer them for you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Glenn Sanderson
Headteacher



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