

St. Aidan's Catholic Academy

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To all in our community,

We have had a challenging but successful first six weeks back in school. The resilience of our young men is palpable and it is clear that they have no intention of allowing coronavirus to get in the way of their education. We have already launched the revision process with Y11 and Y13 and the importance of on-going scholarly commitment has been stressed to them in the strongest terms. We are still unclear as to what the government will decide over examinations in the summer, and following Scotland's move on Wednesday things remain very uncertain. It is because of this that I need to stress that students must treat all of their in-school assessments with the utmost seriousness. My staff will only be able to use data from genuine assessments to help them judge final grades. I really hope this is not where we end up as I want our students to be able to showcase their God given talents and gain recognition themselves for all the hard work and energy they have, and will, continue to expend. From time to time I take a moment to contemplate our move through this crisis and I often return to a short passage from Corinthians which I like very much, 'Let all that you do be done in love.' I am proud that our Catholic community is grounded in love. Taking the time to help those most vulnerable and standing together, facing down the current challenges, by showing the face of Christ to all.

Thank you for your continued support and God bless.

Glenn Sanderson



O Lord my God,

Thank you that you are the source of all true joy in life. Help me teach others well. Guide my thoughts, words and actions to enable me to carry out this important work that you have placed before me.

Increase my faith that anything is possible in your power. Let the majesty of the Father be the light that guides me, the compassion of the Son be the love that inspires me and the presence of the Holy Spirit be the power that empowers me.

In the name of the Father,
The Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Chaplaincy

The school has excellent links with CAFOD and Missio. Currently CAFOD runs "Cancel the debt" campaign which is worth supporting. Check out <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns/Time-to-cancel-the-debt> to find out more.



On the 9th of October CAFOD celebrates World Fast Day for more information please follow the link below.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>



Operation Christmas Child



We accept donations of gifts and shoe boxes from now until the 6th of November. Money donations can be paid via the academy's online portal. Please place the items in the boxes located, every Friday, outside of the front and back of the school.



ALL Students

A reminder to all students that government guidance now makes the wearing of face coverings in a public place mandatory. Please ensure you wear your face covering every day in school as well as on your journey to and from school.



We accept donations to our food bank every Friday morning. We have a box in the reception and at the back of school where you can place all food items.
Thank you.

Chess

A shout out to the chess players. If any of you enjoy chess at whatever level or would like to learn.

Declare your interest by getting in touch with Mr Smith stating your level whether it be beginner or grandmaster, we can accommodate. Over the years St Aidan's has had some good players and we used to regularly play Southmoor Academy, our local, friendly rival. I am happy to report that our team of five usually won. Back then we had a thriving club of about thirty members. Two or three staff came along from time to time as well and it was a nice informal gathering. Although things are restricted at the moment I am sure we can creatively meet on teams and form a group. From there we could match people up, for a league or have a winner take all knockout with a prize. Your ideas would be welcome too. If interested I look forward to hearing from you.



Y11 Parental Information Evening 2020

On 30th September we hosted a virtual parental information evening for Y11 students. Although we would have preferred to have welcomed all families on site, this was unable to happen! The evening was a great success. Parents and students were able to receive full briefings on a range of topics from revision techniques to current government thinking on examinations. If you were unable to attend but would like a PDF copy of the presentation from the evening please follow the link below.

www.staidanscatholicacademy.co.uk

Parent Information
Letters to Parents

Health and Wellbeing

A reminder that all pupils in our school has access to Kooth.com. Kooth is an online forum to support wellbeing. It has a huge range of resources to help and support young people.



“I really like how you can share your problems anonymously and have help from others. It makes me feel accepted and that people will not judge me.”

You have unlimited access to the resources but if you would like further information then please contact your son's Head of House.

Y11 Revision Day

On Wednesday 30th September Y11 had the wonderful experience by taking a close look at revision techniques and getting organized ready to face the exam season in the summer. These are clearly challenging times, so the sooner our students can be prepared for the exam season the better their chances will be of achieving fantastic results.

Students in Year 10 will also begin this process over the next few months, so that all of our GCSE students are confident to face the challenges that the current educational landscape throws at them.



Our CPD Virtual Room is up and Running. Staff can follow the link from their desktop - [CPD ROOM](#)

