



In all things faithful

St Damian's RC Science College

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Headteacher

Mr S Logue BA (Hons), M.Ed., NPQH

3rd January 2021

Dear parents/carers

Firstly, I hope that you had a great Christmas and New Year, albeit somewhat different. I just wanted to again thank you for the overwhelming support since March 2020, and in particular last term, September to December. Your patience and understanding, as well as the number of positive messages about the school, and especially the staff, have been truly up-lifting. As a community working together, we were, on the whole, very successful last term. Sadly, however, I anticipate that there will be further issues and disruption this half term, but the St Damian's community will deal with all the issues that we face in a professional manner.

As you will be aware, the Government announced just before we broke up for the Autumn term that schools would only be open on Monday 4th January for pupils in Year 11 and those classed as vulnerable or children of key workers, with all pupils expecting to return to school on the 11th January. This plan has now changed and last Wednesday [30th December] the Government announced new dates for the return to school.

Following the recent announcements, here is an outline of the plans for remote learning and the phased return to school for pupils at St. Damian's:

Week commencing 4th January

- This week school will **only** be open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers
- Immediate remote learning will start on **Monday 4th January for all Year 11 pupils at 9.20am**
- Some lessons may be **live**, and it is important Year 11 pupils log in promptly at 9.20am
- On Tuesday **5th January** remote learning will start for **Year 10** pupils at 9.20am
- On Wednesday 6th January, **an assembly** will be delivered to all years at **9am**
- From **Wednesday 6th January** remote learning will start for **all pupils in Years 7-9 at 9.20am**
- Further updates **regarding assemblies** will be detailed in a further letter
- Pupils must follow their timetable for **Week 2** this week
- As we progress through the days and weeks ahead **more and more lessons will be live**

Week commencing 11th January

- This week school will continue to be open **only** to vulnerable children and children of critical workers
- Additionally this week, **Year 11 pupils** will attend school for face to face learning
- Years 7-10 will continue with **remote learning from home** and follow their timetable for **Week 1**

Week commencing 18th January

- From this week, it is planned that the school will be open for **all pupils**
- Pupils will need to bring their books for their **Week 2 timetable**

St. Damian's RC Science College

I am truly sorry for the inconvenience that this will cause, not least the disruption to your child's education. It was obvious, from the high attendance throughout last term that your children love being here.

My senior leadership team and I will be meeting at 8am on Monday morning to finalise plans and a more detailed letter will follow including plans for the mass testing of pupils.

I have to state that due to issues beyond my control, including any new Government announcements, the above may be subject to change, even at short notice.

Year 11 Exams

Year 11 exams that were scheduled for this Thursday will be going ahead as planned. More details will follow in due course.

Here is to a better 2021 for us all.

Mr Logue



Headteacher