


# All Hallows Catholic High School



 @allhallowschs • T: 01772 746121 • F: 01772 908502 • E: enquiries@allhallows.lancs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr C Horrocks B.A.

Monday 21st September

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to you as we await the start of the new local restrictions which will come into force across Lancashire tomorrow, following Central Government's announcements at the end of last week. For All Hallows, we are not expecting the changes to significantly impact upon our current measures within school which we implemented in preparation for reopening at the start of September. Our plan already limits the movement of pupils during the school day so we have not yet mandated the wearing of face coverings for both staff and pupils in corridors and open spaces. In light of the new local restrictions, we would now however advise strongly that all pupils wear a face covering when moving to and from the school yard at break and lunch, and additionally that Year 10 and 11 pupils do so as they move during a lesson changeover.

During the past few days we have had a number of cases of pupils and staff being tested for Covid-19, however, as yet, we have had no positive results. This, in turn, means that we have not had to send groups of pupils or staff home to self-isolate. Please be aware that should we receive the information that a member of the school community has tested positive we may contact you to inform you that your child will have to isolate for 14 days if they are considered a close contact of the person infected. We will act upon the advice of Public Health England and in line with the risk assessment we carried out for reopening. Our ability to track and trace our pupils very closely, due to the detailed curriculum plan we have produced, should allow us to experience minimum disruption to learning should a positive case emerge. However, we will always act in good faith and will not put the well-being of staff or pupils in jeopardy when taking the difficult decision to send pupils home. I thank you in advance for your support and understanding if we are forced to ask pupils to stay at home to self-isolate.

In the event that we are forced to send classes or year groups home, staff attending school will follow their usual timetable and teach classes from the classroom in which the lesson would normally take place. Staff members have received training on the use of Microsoft Teams and have created class groups on the facility to enable them to continue to teach online if their pupils are at home. Pupils must ensure that they have the correct log in details for their school email as this is vital in ensuring that they are able to access Teams. We are conscious of the fact that our pupils will have differing levels of connectivity and access to electronic devices at home. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could talk to your child's Year Manager if you require assistance with accessing the internet at home.

When schools were asked to prepare their arrangements for full reopening at the start of September, the plans drawn up lay within Tier 1 of the Government's overall strategy to return pupils to school safely after the period of lockdown. The strategy does, in fact, have four tiers. The recently announced local lockdown restrictions which will be applied from tomorrow, still allow schools to operate within Tier 1. However, should the Government decide to go even further with its stricter measures, schools may be informed by the Local Authority that they are to begin to operate a Tier 2 plan for opening. This would impact significantly upon our provision, as different year groups would attend school on a rota basis which may operate on a weekly or two-weekly cycle. Our Tier 2 plan is now written and we would be able to share this with parents quickly, in the event of school being directed to move to a Tier 2 status.

Tiers 3 and 4 would see the school instructed to return to a situation more like that experienced during the lockdown period, when the children of key workers were accommodated in school and all other pupils were taught remotely at home. Of course we are hopeful that school will remain in Tier 1 for the foreseeable future.

We are clearly entering another period of uncertainty and change may come very rapidly. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the school's current arrangements or the implications of potential Tier 2, 3 and 4 restrictions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Horrocks  
Headteacher