

All Hallows Catholic High School



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Headteacher: Mr C Horrocks B.A.

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to you at the end of our first day back after such a long period of remote learning for our pupils. I would like to thank the pupils in Years 7, 10 and 11 who can be very proud of the way in which they have engaged positively with the health and safety messages delivered by their teachers. They were all a credit to their families. We look forward to seeing all the pupils in Years 8 and 9 when they come for their first day tomorrow.

I would like to clarify some of the information which was sent to parents last week in our guidance booklet and to give further details about arrangements for ordering lunches. Firstly, I would like to apologise to some parents of Year 7 pupils who, due to a glitch in our IT system, did not immediately receive the information we sent. We were pleased with the quality of information we sent regarding reopening and we have received many positive comments from parents. However, we were most disappointed that it did not reach all of our Year 7 parents. Happily, the issues with the system are now resolved and we look forward to maintaining efficient lines of communication from this point.

One aspect of the measures which we have taken to ensure safe reopening has been the subject of some curiosity of parents. A number have asked us to reconsider the decision to ask pupils to perform PE in their school uniforms. There are a number of reasons for having taken this decision. The teaching of PE is currently operating under very strict guidelines. We are not permitted to teach contact sports, or to engage in activities which may cause the pupils to sweat profusely or pant rapidly. Therefore, the PE department has had to drastically alter its curriculum in the short term to allow activities to be performed comfortably in school uniform. The school continues to monitor the advice and guidance offered by both the DfE and the governing bodies of various sports. We will keep our initial decision under review and will inform parents of any changes should we alter our current policy.

Attached to this email you will be able to view the instructions for accessing our online ordering system for school lunches. Due to Covid-19 related restrictions we are operating a staggered lunch and there is a more limited menu from which to choose. To enable our kitchen staff to order stock for a full school week we must ask that orders for lunch are placed by the end of each Thursday, for the lunches to be taken from Monday to Friday the following week. As this is the first week back at school, we would ask that orders are placed by the end of Sunday 6th September for the five days of the week commencing 7th September. Please refer to the attachments for full details.

On a final note, I would like to congratulate our Year 11 cohort of 2019 / 20 who received excellent grades in their recent GCSEs. Of course, due to the pandemic, arrangements were very different this year, with no examinations actually taken. Despite the challenges our fabulous Year 11 pupils had to face this year, they can take great pride in the results they achieved following their five years spent at our school. Please visit our website to view the write up about this year's results.

Reopening the school to all pupils this September has presented enormous challenges to so many in our school community. I would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support of our work in school, and our pupils for the way in which they battled through the lockdown period to emerge eager and ready to resume their education. I would also like to take this opportunity to

thank all of my colleagues in school for their tireless work during lockdown and their evident resolve and team spirit as we now begin to embark upon this new term.

Yours sincerely,



C Horrocks
Headteacher



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