

20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we progress through these ever-changing times, I would like to thank you for your continued support with our online learning through Teams. The schools in the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust have been working closely throughout this lockdown period and continue to plan together to meet the challenge of ensuring pupils continue to make progress in their learning.

It is hoped that excellent engagement from the vast majority of pupils across all subjects, will mean that when we are able to return to a normal school routine your child(ren) will not be at a disadvantage.

Teachers continue to plan and deliver lessons in line with the scheduled school timetable and are available for support and feedback at this time each day. Our robust approach to remote teaching and learning will help ensure pupils continue to make progress and do not miss out on crucial aspects of their learning.

Following the latest announcements from the Government we will continue to remain closed, except for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. Unless further changes are announced online lessons will continue for all pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 until the end of term. We are grateful to parents and carers for working in partnership with school to support their child's learning and for encouraging pupils to engage, keep in contact with their teachers, and complete assignments in good time, through Teams.

In addition, schools have been asked by the Government to begin *'some face to face contact with Year 10 pupils, who have key exams next year, in support of their continued remote home learning'*.

As it stands, from June 8<sup>th</sup> we plan to implement a programme that will offer a face to face, one-to-one consultation with every Year 10 pupil and an appropriate teacher.

While online learning through Teams will continue to be the main platform for learning throughout the summer term, ensuring all students have access to their teachers and the GCSE curriculum, the opportunity for each Year 10 pupil to enhance and support their learning with an additional in-school, face to face session will add a further level of support to pupils facing key exams next year.

Year 10 parents will be contacted over the next couple of weeks individually and allocated a specific time and date for their child and one parent to attend a face to face meeting with an allocated teacher.

We will take every possible precaution to ensure the safety of all of our children, parents and staff, adapting our environments, where necessary, to allow for social distancing and hygiene considerations.

If your child is in Year 10, health and safety protocols will be attached to the face to face meeting invite letter you will receive in the post. The expectation is that all pupils, parents and staff adhere to the protocols while on the school site and parents will be informed of the confirmation of attendance protocols to ensure the effective and efficient management of such meetings. We would ask parents and carers to support us in this.

Can I make it clear to parents and carers, however, that the Year 10 plan outlined in this letter remains subject to change if Government, Health or Scientific advice changes or is updated at a national or local level in the coming days and weeks. Any changes will, of course, be communicated to parents and carers if, and when, necessary.

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**OUR LADY & ST. BEDE**  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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Deputy CEO: M Shorten M.Ed., BA (Hons)  
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Finally, as more and more of the economy starts to re-open and many of you will be returning to work, I must remind you that the guidance for schools around pupil on-site attendance has not changed. We will therefore continue to remain open only for the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children. If you do fall into that category and you would like your child to attend school, please help us with planning, health and safety, and catering, by emailing us at least 48 hours in advance to the Assistant Headteacher, Carly Rhodes on [rhodesc@ourladyandstbede.org.uk](mailto:rhodesc@ourladyandstbede.org.uk). After half term, from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, all children of key workers and vulnerable children who are attending school are asked to note the new start time of 8:45am. This is to enable us to stagger start times as more pupils and staff are on site.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Stay safe and God bless

Yours faithfully

Mrs M Wilkinson  
Headteacher

