

# Saint Bede's Catholic High School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we enter the time when what normally would have been the school Easter holidays, I want to update you on a number of matters.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support and patience during these unprecedented times. Planning and preparing meaningful work at a quantity that is manageable and helpful for pupils for such a long period of time is for us, like all schools, a new experience. I hope that what we have been doing so far has been valuable and has balanced the wide range of circumstances that all families will be facing with the need to maintain learning. Your assistance in establishing good home working routines and ensuring students are engaging well with the work they have been set by their teachers is invaluable. We have also valued the feedback you have provided on remote learning and will use this to develop and improve our approaches after the Easter break.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's key stage leader if you have any particular anxieties about any work that has been set and they will liaise with the relevant subject leaders. As well as setting academic work, I know that our staff have been regularly maintaining contact with pupils through form blogs and individual messages via Firefly as well as emails and 'phone calls with parents. I hope that you have found this supportive. Please do keep us informed if you feel that pupils are being given too little or too much work.

## The Easter holiday period

This is obviously a challenging time for many reasons and it is important for everyone to have a complete break this fortnight – pupils and staff alike. I have therefore asked staff not to set any new work over this period although, of course, pupils may choose to use some of the time to catch up with work already set. From Monday, 20<sup>th</sup>, staff will again set work so as to ensure that pupils are as well-prepared as possible for a welcome return to normality when it comes.

## GCSE examinations

On Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, OFQUAL confirmed the arrangements that are being put in place for awarding GCSE results for this year's cohort, including our Year 11. These arrangements can be viewed here on OFQUAL's letter to those students:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877830/Letter\\_to\\_students\\_-\\_Summer\\_2020\\_grading.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf).

We are committed to ensuring that our Year 11 pupils are treated as fairly as possible in this process and our staff will be preparing the information required by the exam boards over the weeks ahead.

I hope and pray that you and your families stay safe and well. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there are any changes in circumstances that we ought to know about or if we can help you in any way.

I wish you all a happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Grice  
Headteacher