

Saint Bede's Catholic High School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and all members of your family are keeping well and coping with all the challenges presented by the lockdown. I want to take this opportunity to write to update you on some of our plans for the remainder of this term.

Year 10 face-to-face provision

We were informed earlier this morning that the Director of Public Health for Lancashire has reviewed his guidance and declared that schools in Lancashire should not open more widely to Year 10 pupils next Monday. It is still the case that he believes that two of the five government tests are not being met in the county. We are obliged to follow such advice but would also always seek to be as cautious as possible. Therefore Year 10 pupils will not be attending school for Face-to-Face learning next week, 15th -19th June. The Local Authority have stated that they will review this position next Monday and each subsequent Monday if necessary.

I will write again next Monday, outlining whether the advice had changed. If schools can re-open on 22nd June for Y10, then I will provide detailed information about the provision we will make. Most importantly, we will explain how we will implement official guidance to ensure that your children and our staff are as safe as possible. Provision for the children of key workers and vulnerable families will continue as at present.

Feedback on online provision

I am very grateful for your responses to our questionnaire about the online provision we have provided so far. Your observations will help us to improve the quality of the work currently being planned for your children for the remainder of this term. We may also have to consider that online learning may still be in place for some/all students for at least part of the next academic year. We are adjusting our planning to take account of that possibility.

Arrangement for reports

Inevitably, our usual arrangements for providing reports on your child's progress and the meetings with parents at our Subject Consultation meetings and Review Day have been disrupted this year. However, we do intend to provide you with a straightforward and clear summary of your child's progress later this term. We are also developing an approach which will help parents and pupils to keep track of progress and learning in all subjects.

Improving Communication – Newsletter and Year Leaders

Our newsletter will return this week with plenty of reports that celebrate the ongoing achievements and successes of our pupils as well as some useful and enjoyable activities. Our Key Stage Leaders will shortly write to parents outlining another approach we are developing that we hope will be of benefit. In addition to online messaging, we wanted to provide the opportunity for parents to speak directly with Year Leaders. This may be for pastoral support, guidance or educational concerns. When the system is in place, you will be able to book a telephone conversation via the 'Parents Evening System' App located on the Firefly dashboard.

As always, I greatly appreciate the support you are providing and even more so in these challenging times. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Form Tutor or Year Leader if we can provide you with further support or guidance.

I hope you continue to keep safe and well.

Kind regards,

P Grice
Headteacher