

# The Holy Family



## Catholic School

Our Ref: SMA/DK

11 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you and your families well.

As you will be aware, Secondary Schools are due to open more widely to students from Years 10 and 12 from next Monday, 15 June 2020, whilst continuing to provide remote learning for all year groups.

We are currently in the latter stages of planning the provision which will be as follows:

- All students in Year 10/12 will be offered an individual face to face subject mentoring appointment with each of their subject teachers and a member of the pastoral team.
- Individual dates/times for student appointments will be issued in the coming days. Where possible, students will be allocated all of their appointments on the same day however this may not always be possible for organisational reasons.
- The purpose of the mentoring appointments will be to discuss how students have managed with remote learning during lockdown so far including any queries that they may have about their work, and for teachers to offer students support with their learning going forward for the remainder of the term. Students will be given a work pack by each of their subject teachers to bring home and work through for the remainder of the term. This will supplement the remote provision which will continue and as per Government guidance continues to be the main method of education for all students while schools remain partially closed.

More detail of expectations and routines will be included with the student appointment letters.

When planning the provision, along with considering the Government guidelines, we also needed to consider the logistical challenges of our school site in the context of implementing social distancing and other essential safety measures, the availability of staff, and above all the value that the provision would add to the students' education at this challenging time. We looked at 'bubble' teaching models as have many other schools, however if we had adopted this model incorporating the maximum daily 25% student attendance rules, the limitations of our site in the terms of the areas in which we can implement social distancing and the time we have left before the end of term, students wouldn't have the opportunity to see all of their subject teachers and in some cases may have been 'taught' by teachers they did not know and/or were not subject specialists. Therefore, for the reasons outlined we decided the mentoring model would have the most impact on supporting these students with their learning.

As stated, above dates and times for Year 10/12 students' attendance will be delivered to the home address we have on file. If you have changed address or any other contact details recently could I please ask that you contact the school urgently to update your details.

If your child falls into the clinically extremely vulnerable category we are aware they will be shielding until 30 June, however we can offer them mentoring provision at the beginning of July when the shielding period ends. If this applies to your child, please let us know and we will ensure they are accommodated accordingly. If however, your child is shielding and you would prefer them not to attend school before the end of term, please contact us to confirm this and we will arrange for the work packs to be delivered to you.

**If you have a child in Year 10/12 please do not send them into school at any time other than the time of their allocated appointments. Students in Years 7-9, 11 and 13 should not attend school at all. The only exception to this would be if your child has been accessing the key worker childcare provision by prior arrangement with the school. This provision will continue as normal.**

For students in Years 7-10 and 12 remote learning will continue until the end of term. As has been the case since the beginning of the lockdown period the main platform we will use for the setting and return of work will be Classcharts. We have conducted a review of student engagement with work since the beginning of the lockdown period and will very shortly be introducing a more streamlined approach to the setting and return of work which should support students with their organisation and encourage engagement. Additionally, Classcharts are in the process of introducing a fully monitored instant messaging service – hopefully this will be available in the next few days – which will provide students and teachers a more immediate way to contact each other which will also be beneficial. More details of updates will follow in the next few days as we have them.

We have also been working on ways to support students in Year 11 with their transition to the next stage of their education and also Year 13 students with their transition out of Holy Family to further education or employment. Again, more detailed information will be circulated to the relevant students in due course.

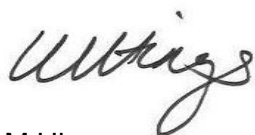
Finally, the pastoral team will begin making routine phone calls to all families of students in the school from next week. The purpose of these calls is to check how remote learning is going and to ensure we can offer any support needed with learning or any other issues we can help with. We are aware that many families, for various reasons, have had contact from school since the beginning of the lockdown period but we are also aware that some families have not. Please use this contact from school to let us know of anything at all we can do to support your family during this uncertain period.

Please look out for further updates on all of the developments I have outlined above.

As ever, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Hings', written in a cursive style.

M Hings  
Headteacher