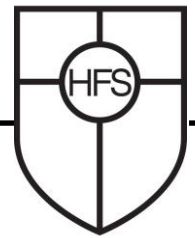


The Holy Family Catholic School



Our Ref: SMA/DK

22 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As school finishes for the summer break, I wanted to write to thank you for your continued support this year and to remind you of some important information regarding the return to school in September.

As far as we are aware, at the moment, Covid 19 restrictions will be lifted as planned and we will return to a much more 'normal' school life when we return in September. As I explained when I wrote to you on 7 July 2021, part of the condition of students returning to school without restrictions is that we carry out asymptomatic testing for Covid-19 in school. We are required to test each student on their return to school and then once more during the following 3 – 5 days. Following those two tests, the Government will be asking you to test your children at home twice weekly until the end of September when this will be reviewed. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged. For students under the age of 16, we need parental consent prior to administering the tests. You have received details of how to give consent and I would like to thank those of you who have returned that to us. If you haven't yet returned consent for testing but you wish your child(ren) to be tested on their return to school, please confirm your consent as per the instructions you have received as soon as possible.

As I also explained in my recent letter, to enable us to manage the testing of students on their return to school, we will be staggering the return during week commencing 6 September 2021. A reminder that the return dates for each year group are as follows:

Tuesday 7 September: Years 7 & 12
Wednesday 8 September: Years 11 & 13
Thursday 9 September: Year 8
Friday 10 September: Year 10
Monday 13 September: Year 9

Students should arrive at school no later than 8.35 am. Please do not send your child(ren) back to school prior to their allocated return date.

From Tuesday 14 September, all students are expected to attend school as normal. The second Asymptomatic Covid-19 tests will take place in line with Government guidance. You only need to provide consent once for all of the tests.

A further important piece of information is a slight change to the school holiday dates for next academic year. Schools have been allocated an additional occasional day in lieu of the extra Bank Holiday which has been called to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As the Bank Holiday allocated falls during the May half-term holiday, we have allocated our additional occasional day as Tuesday, 26 July 2022 which means that school will finish for the summer holiday on Monday, 25 July 2022 rather than, 26 July as previously published.

May I remind you that there is lots of useful information regarding all aspects of school life on our website. In particular, there is a Safeguarding tab under the Parents and Students sections on the site. This section contains information which may be useful for people facing challenges at what continues to be a difficult time for many. There is also an option to report any concerns you may have. This facility will be monitored over the summer holiday. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to.

Finally, please can I remind you that if any students are displaying Covid-19 symptoms or are required to self-isolate, they should not attend school but should remain at home. If this applies to your child(ren), please contact the school to inform us as soon as you can.

School closes at 12.00 pm tomorrow - Friday, 23 July 2021. We re-open to students from Tuesday, 7 September 2021 as outlined above.

I hope that our students and their families observing Eid this week have enjoyed their celebrations, and I wish you and your families a safe and restful summer break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Mather'.

S Mather
Interim Headteacher