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Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

23 March 2020

Dear Parents

I appreciate that parents have received many emails from the school over the last two weeks, but this has been necessary to keep you informed.

Last week was a week like no other. I wanted to write and say a massive thank you all for the forbearance that you have shown. None of us anticipated, even a few weeks ago, that there would ever be a day that we would face the challenges of operating schools in such complex and testing circumstances

This morning I met with all staff in school today to consider school operation for the foreseeable future. We have a significant number of staff self-isolating following the advice provided by the government.

Staff have started to set work; this will be available initially through SIMS Engagement. If you or your children have difficulty in logging on through mobile devices, it can be accessed through a computer at www.sims-student.co.uk using their Office 365 email and password. If students still find it difficult to log on to SIMS Engagement, they must email their Form Tutor. We are working with the service provider of this product to try to ensure it works as efficiently as possible. Please bear with us over the next few days.

Staff will be setting work for Years 7-10 and Year 12. Whilst the learning for all students is important, the students I am most concerned about are in Year 10 and 12. They will miss approximately one fifth of their courses. There is no indication from exam boards that the specifications for examination in 2021 will reflect this. If you have a child in these year groups, it is essential that they engage with the remote learning resources. We will be setting a number of open book assessments for students in Years 10 and 12. It is important that we have some assessment information for these groups.

It is clear from the activity of some people, that the call for social distancing is being ignored. This is unacceptable and will result in the government imposing tighter restrictions and an elongation of the period of isolation for the most vulnerable members of society. We are aware that some students have been socialising in groups. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that this does not occur. Equally, as parents, we have a responsibility to set an example.

Yours sincerely



Mr Matthew Quinn
Headteacher