

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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

Our Ref: MQ/SM

30 June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

The school has received many letters of support over the last week, thank you all for these.

It has been delightful to receive Year 10 and 12 students into school this week and to see the students in lessons once again. We also welcomed back Year 9 for academic mentoring. One or two Year 9 students looked a little anxious before their interviews, but it is pleasing to see their positive responses afterwards. The academic review conversations have been very rewarding.

Last week KS3 took part in consolidation week. For some youngsters this week provided an opportunity for them to catch up with previous work. I know from the email traffic that a number of parents have thanked us for this approach. Where students have been involved in the consolidation activities, we would be pleased to receive photographs and a description, please send these to the Oaklands School email address [oaklands@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:oaklands@oaklandscatholicschool.org)

I normally start writing my Tuesday letter on Sunday evening, this week however I have put this off, waiting for the guidance on school opening for September 2020. At the time of writing, this has not been published. There have been numerous press stories; I suspect that there is some truth in what has been leaked out. At this juncture however, there is little point second guessing what might occur, with little published concrete information available. Further, it will take us some time to 'bake' the logistics into school operation for September. With less than three weeks before the end of term, we are hoping for some clarity so that we can advise parents.

Please be aware with a large number of staff in school, delivering bespoke lessons to small groups it is not possible to maintain the volume of on-line learning.

## Student Reports

We are on the cusp of sending these out to parents and in a normal year these would go out via student mail. This is not possible this year and therefore, we will publish them using SIMS Parent. Most parents have already installed the app for this, but if you have not, instructions can be found on our website via <https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/students/homework-area/>

## Autumn Term 2020

On the assumption that we can bring students back into school, we would like to phase students back into school:

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Staff INSET
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Year 7 only
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 7, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Whole School

We had intended to use the 2<sup>nd</sup> October and 27<sup>th</sup> November as INSET days. Considering the disruption already experienced by students, this time would be better used for students in school, therefore these have been postponed. The INSET time will be used at another point in the year.

### Survey on Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all parents that replied; we received 107 responses. With 1,100 students currently on roll, this represents just under 10%. I will report on the detail next week, however there does not appear to be a wholesale appetite for additional evenings.

### Prefects and Buddies

Year 10 students have been invited to complete applications to be considered for the role of Prefect and Buddies next academic year. Information has been sent out via Teams. Returns are due to Mr Whelan (Prefects) and Mrs Bonnington (Buddies) by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

### Relationships and Sex Education Consultation

We will shortly issue the draft Relationships and Sex Education Policy for consultation. This follows our parent evening in January when we started the process of looking at the new statutory requirements for RSE for September 2020. Please look out for this and do let us have your feedback.

### Reminders and Useful Information

#### ***Further guidance on from the Government for parents regarding online safety***

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

#### ***Critical worker***

If you require a place in school for your child, please email [Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:Provision@oaklandscatholicschool.org) stating your child's name, tutor group and the days you require a place. At this stage of the term only emergency provision can be considered. Please see previous correspondence from the school.

#### ***Use of public transport***

It is now compulsory to wear a mask on public transport please can parents ensure that they provide their children with what they require for their journey to and from school.

<https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/coronavirus/>

Thankfully, a shorter letter from me this week. With all the uncertainty I suspect it will be necessary to write home over the holiday period, so please keep a watchful eye on emails, texts and the school website over the coming weeks.

Thank you for all you are doing to support us at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Quinn  
**Headteacher**