

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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20 May 2025

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers

As part of their RE syllabus and to celebrate our sense of religious community, the RE department are organising a pilgrimage for all Year 7 students to The Church of the Sacred Heart and St Peter the Apostle in Waterlooville. This will take place in cohorts (half year groups) on Tuesday 10th June (cohort 1) and Tuesday 17th June (cohort 2). The students will be accompanied by their Head of Year, Tutors, RE teachers and other support staff. We will walk there, departing Oaklands at 9.30am and returning by 1.40pm, in time for lunch. Those students with mobility issues have been identified and will be transported by minibus.

Whilst at the Church, the students will study our local parish by undertaking a variety of activities. They will be provided with a task booklet to help them come to a greater understanding of the background and purpose of our local Church. Alongside staff from Oaklands, the students will be supported by the parish priest, Monsignor Canon Jeremy Garratt and Fr James Lewis. During the morning, the students will have a short break. If they wish to bring food or drink, please ensure this is included in their bags. We will bring a close to our visit by joining the Church parish community in their celebration of Mass at 12.15pm. Any parents wishing to attend Mass are most welcome.

All students must be in full school uniform for the visit, and will need to bring a pencil, pen and colouring pencils, plus a clipboard (or similar) if possible. Appropriate shoes must be worn and suitable outer wear, should the weather require it, e.g. waterproof coat if raining. Equally if it is a very hot day please ensure students have plenty of fluids to keep them hydrated on the walk.

There is no cost to this trip. It is a curriculum-based trip, and students are expected to attend.

We would advise that students do not to take valuables out on school activities, however, should they be taken parents should ensure personal possessions are adequately insured. It is the parent's/carers responsibility to update the school should there be any changes to the medical information about their child. Please communicate these to Mrs Brettell, Business Support Manager.

If you have any questions regarding the Pilgrimage, feel free to contact me on d.palfreyman@oaklandscatholicschool.org

Kind regards

Mrs Deborah Palfreyman (Head of RE)