



SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership



St. Peter's Catholic School
Whitefields Road, Solihull B91 3NZ
Tel: 0121 705 3988
E-mail: office@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M.E. Murphy

Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parent,

I hope you and your family are keeping well during this difficult time.

We continue to follow both national and local advice to ensure the welfare and safety of our school community.

Support for students and parents

If you have any concerns, please contact the school via the school office, office@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk. Members of the Leadership Team, Support Staff and Teaching Staff are available to offer advice and support to any parents and students in need of help. The support agencies available to students are listed below, which I communicated in an earlier letter, and additional services suggested by the Government.

- <https://www.kooth.com/>
- <https://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/services/13-pause>
- Mind have also released information on Coronavirus and wellbeing. This can be found on the following link. <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>
- Solar Crisis Support
 - Monday-Friday 8.00am-8.00pm – 0121 301 2750
 - Weekends 8.00am-8.00pm – 0121 301 5500
 - Everyday 8.00pm-8.00am – 0300 300 0099

If your child or young person would like to speak to someone anonymously, they could try calling a helpline or visiting websites such as ChildLine and The Mix.

[Shout](#) provides free, confidential support, 24/7 via text for anyone at crisis anytime, anywhere.

You can:

- text SHOUT to 85258 in the UK to text with a trained Crisis Volunteer
- text with someone who is trained and will provide active listening and collaborative problem-solving

[ChildLine](#) provides a confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem. It comforts, advises and protects.

You can:

- call 0800 1111 any time for free
- have an [online chat with a counsellor](#)
- check out the [message boards](#)

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The Mix provides a free confidential telephone helpline and online service that aims to find young people the best help, whatever the problem.

You can:

- call 0808 808 4994 for free – lines are open from 11am to 11pm every day
- access the [online community](#)
- [email The Mix](#)

School will continue to be open for the children of Key Workers and vulnerable children during the Easter Holiday, excluding Good Friday and Easter Monday. Should your situation at home change, please let us know by emailing office@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk

Support for students and families who are entitled to free school meals

This week we have received information from the Department for Education and Edenred, their chosen supplier of vouchers for students in receipt of free school meals. Families currently in receipt were contacted yesterday.

Should your situation have changed recently, for example, you may have recently had need to apply for Universal Credit, you may be eligible to apply for free school meals via the links below depending upon where you live:

Solihull residents – <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/fsm>

Birmingham residents – <https://www.st-peters.solihull.sch.uk/media/uploads/Pupil-Premium-birminghamfsmapplicationform.pdf>

Examinations

Hot off the press: we have just received guidance from Ofqual about the awarding of GCSE and A Level grades this year. Please see the guidance [here](#) and it is also attached. We appreciate that students may have questions or queries and further information will be communicated in due course.

Coursework

For students in Year 11 and 13, no new work should commence. Where there is ongoing coursework outstanding, and teachers have agreed a deadline which hasn't yet expired, students may still submit this by the agreed date, but all assignments must be submitted by Friday 17th April, 3pm at the latest.

Year 13 Mocks

As a result of the Ofqual guidance, any outstanding mock examination papers and score will not be returned to students at this time.

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Teaching and Learning

The last two weeks have been a steep learning curve for us all, students, parents and staff, as we all adjust to a new way of living and working.

Home working is not a substitute for a 'normal school day' where students are taught by trained subject specialists; we can all just do our best at the moment, students, parents and staff. I am aware that some students and parents have felt a little 'overwhelmed' with all the work that has been set but this is a 'marathon and not a sprint.'

With this in mind, we are asking all stakeholders for their views here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2H3M3ST>.

We would value your feedback as we plan for future teaching and learning activities.

Research has shown that repetition and consolidation of knowledge, with regular revisiting and embedding of learning will benefit everyone. Activities that require pupils to systematically retrieve information from their memories can be highly effective. Another big focus at home should be reading. Research has proven there are multiple benefits for doing so. Please find attached a suggested reading list.

Work will not be set over the Easter Holidays but you will find some suggested fun activities [here](#) if families wish to make use of them.

ParentPay

Due to the current situation a number of trips and visits have been cancelled, we have been working with ParentPay on how families will be refunded costs. As a consequence, ParentPay have announced changes to their refund procedures which may delay the refund process. Please be assured that these refunds will be made as soon as we are able to do so. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Easter Holiday

We wish you all a peaceful and Holy Easter - whatever that may look like. On the [BDES website](#) you will find an invitation to a 'Weekly Worship' from Dan and Emily from One Life Music. As Cardinal Nichols invites us to make a perfect Act of Contrition, you will find information [here](#) to signpost some of the parishes in the Diocese which live stream their Masses.

Thank you for your support and understanding at this time and I hope you and your loved ones stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M. E. Murphy
Headteacher

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