



St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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Registered Charity Number: 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

2nd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

September Opening

Many thanks for all your support during this time of partial school closure. It has been incredibly rewarding having Y10 back in school and a real pleasure for all staff to see their faces again. We are now visioning for what September might look like. I can't tell you with any certainty but I thought it might be helpful to paint a picture of what we are planning for, even though at this stage it may be a bit blurred as we await Government guidance. All our plans are subject to change as we receive up to date scientific and medical advice.

We are imagining a phased start in the first week back in September. For example, our new Year 7 may come back to school on the 7th September, the day set aside for staff training (We have been using this time to train staff in a number of things and further training will be scheduled to fit around these plans.) On Tuesday 8th September another year group will join Year 7 and on Wednesday 9th we are imagining that all year groups will be back in school. We are visioning for avoiding large group gatherings and are exploring plans to stream year group assemblies to form rooms and stagger break times. We are in discussions with Hutchinsons, our new catering service to explore how we can eliminate queuing with possible pre-ordered lunches, different year group 'sittings,' the potential for 'grab and go' food bags, alfresco dining and increasing the numbers of serveries. We have also been in discussion with bus companies about possibilities and await further government guidance on transport. Of course all our tentative plans go with the caveat that we will open fully open if the medical and scientific advice say that it is safe to do so and government guidelines permit it. It might be that we have to scale these plans back and introduce a hybrid of online and face to face learning for all year groups. We are in communication with the Local Authority and Public Health and are constantly monitoring the national and local situation in terms of infection risk.

Learning & Teaching

Learning & Teaching continues to evolve day by day as we learn what works in lockdown. It will come as no surprise that what one child responds well to, another may not, so we continue to listen to you and adapt as we go. We are still providing the full curriculum as we approach the summer break. Please do share your compliments, suggestions, questions and queries with us via togetherapart@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk and continue to help us to hone our provision.

We are due to switch to **Microsoft TEAMS and RMuNify** so that students will be able to access everything they need with one simple login. Please do keep your eye out for this and ensure your child has access to their **email address** via emailrequest@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk as they will need a new password to access everything available. If



you are unsure how to access school email there is a 'how to' video available here:
<https://youtu.be/OhWhW0-Ywkg>

It is also been brought to our attention that some parents are not aware of how students are being given **feedback** on their work. There is a short video on what that might look like here, which supports parents to access this information too <https://youtu.be/JcRv4GxOPWQ>

For those parents or students who wish to come in to discuss learning or wider pastoral needs we still have slots available please call us to book a 'socially distanced' **appointment with a member of staff** should you wish to meet face to face on 01204 697456.

Finally, some students feel they have fallen behind whilst others are asking what they can do to progress further. For this reason, we have put together a summary of what has been covered since March along with suggestions of how students may wish to take their learning further. Please do get in touch before the holidays if you would like any further advice on this. The summer holiday can then be used to catch up on any missed work. The useful links to the information can be found on the school website here.

<https://stjosephsbolton.org.uk/summer-ii-2019/> and all recorded lessons are available on our YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckBa-KncnQpFtCqKVDcr1_Q

I was reminded this week of the words of Christine Caine; 'Sometimes when you're in a dark place you think you've been buried but you've actually been planted'. At times over the last three months you or your families may have felt 'buried' under all the expectations put upon you during lockdown but remember that seeds planted will bear fruit. We are told in the Gospels that The Kingdom of God is like a seed planted secretly and will one day reach fruition. Our mission is to build the Kingdom of God here on earth. As we emerge from lockdown and start to be filled with hope and anticipation for a better world, we thank all members of our community for playing their part in supporting our young people and their families. Thank you to parents and carers for all your support during this time. Your kindness and encouragement have helped to build God's Kingdom here on earth.

Take care and God Bless!

Mr T McCabe

Headteacher