

St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School

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Ms C. McCormack Headteacher

September 11th 2020

Dear SRG families

We have been delighted to welcome students back to school this week. They have returned full of enthusiasm and appear to have taken the events of the last few months in their stride. They have been a credit to you and we are very grateful to you for all the support that you have given us.

Now that all students have been in school and following the timetable for a week, we have been able to evaluate our procedures and revisit our risk assessment. We have also spoken to staff and students; using their feedback and concerns to guide our next steps.

From next Monday, the following changes will be in place:

1. All students - PE

On the days that students have practical PE, they should come to school in their PE kit. We appreciate that this is not ideal. However, it is the only way that we can allow students to participate safely, without compromising social distancing rules.

2. Face coverings

We have a number of students and their families who are at serious risk should they contract the virus. In light of the announcement made by the First Minister, we ask that all students wear a face covering on the corridors and when requested to do so. All students will be expected to wear a face covering on school transport. This will help us to minimise transmission of the virus and ensure that we keep school open.

3. Uniform, jewellery and mobile phones

Please ensure that all students are in full uniform, including black school shoes. Girls are reminded that tight fitting, legging style trousers are not uniform and they should wear tailored black trousers without their ankles showing. Students should not be wearing jewellery. Mobile phones must be turned off and out of sight in a bag or inside blazer pocket. If they are seen in school they will be confiscated and parents may have to come and collect them.

4. Year 9

From Monday, students in Y9 will revert to their original timetable. They will be taught in two contact groups, each one-half of the year group. We have confirmed this with the local authority and amended the risk assessment accordingly. This will cause some disruption to classes, but both staff and students have supported the change, which better meets their needs. All students have been told their form group and room for Monday and will receive a paper copy of their new timetable in Monday morning form time.

4. Exercise books

From Monday, Year 11 students will take their exercise books home. All other years will continue to complete homework using Google classrooms. This will be reviewed in the coming weeks.

5. Free school meals

From Monday, FSM students will be getting their meal provided in school and direct payments to parents will end.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support. God bless you and keep you safe. Best wishes,

Catherie McConnace

Catherine McCormack

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