Welcome to
CARDINAL WISEMAN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Induction Pack for
New Starters

“Cardinal Wiseman is a GOOD school”
Ofsted Inspection Sept 2016
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</tr>
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</table>
Welcome,

I am delighted to welcome you to our exceptional school.

We are a Catholic school with Christ at the centre of all we do. Our pupils know that the school belongs to them and that we all belong to each other. We teach our pupils to be kind, respectful and tolerant towards every person they encounter and together we create a community of love and compassion.

We believe in excellence for all. Our motto is that of Cardinal Wiseman ‘Omnia Pro Christo – All for Christ’ and our dedicated staff join our pupils on their life journey, at whatever stage they are, and support them to become the best person they can be in all aspects of their life.

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school community.

Mr R Swanwick
Headteacher

School Ethos and Mission

‘Omnia Pro Christo’

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School was founded by, and is part of, the Catholic Church. Our ethos is made explicit to our pupils, staff, parents/carers and community through our commitment to the Wiseman Virtues. These virtues embody what it means to be a person committed to leading a life of moral purpose, whether that person is of the Catholic faith, or of any other faith background, or of no faith at all.

In our school we find inspiration from the motto of Cardinal Wiseman, ‘Omnia Pro Christo’ – meaning ‘All for Christ’.

attentive
faith-filled
generous
eloquent
intentional
truthful
loving
hopeful
curious
wise
grateful
discerning
compassionate
active
prophetic
learned
You Lead us in this place. You present Life. Your presence is peace.
Wiseman Virtues

I will be **grateful** when I demonstrate good manners
I will be **generous** when I celebrate others successes and put them first
I will be **attentive** when I listen to others and be part of a quality audience
I will be **discerning** when I make the right choice in a difficult situation
I will be **compassionate** when I am respectful of others and offer forgiveness
I will be **loving** when I treat others in the way that God wants us all to be treated
I will be **faith-filled** when I believe in myself in the face of a challenge
I will be **hopeful** for the future when I trust in God’s plan for me
I will be **eloquent** when I fully develop my spoken and written responses
I will be **truthful** when I speak honestly and with moral courage
I will be **learned** when I work hard and try my best at home and in school
I will be **wise** when I make mistakes and learn from them
I will be **curious** when I show passion and interest in my learning
I will be **active** when I participate by offering all of my gifts
I will be **intentional** when I choose to succeed
I will be **prophetic** when I am aspirational for my future
Parental Contact with the School

General enquiries should be emailed to enquiry@cardinalwiseman.net or call 0121 360 6383.

Here is a list of the different Heads of Year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Head of Year</th>
<th>Email address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Miss Reeves</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kreeves@cardinalwiseman.net">kreeves@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Miss Connell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hconnell@cardinalwiseman.net">hconnell@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Miss Awome</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yawome@cardinalwiseman.net">yawome@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Mrs Cooney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ecooney@cardinalwiseman.net">ecooney@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have a concern regarding academic progress or behaviour and you feel that you wish to take it further than your child’s head of year then contact one of the following members of staff:

**Pastoral RSL (Raising Standard Leader)**

KS3 (Years 7 - 9) - Miss Gannon - mgannon@cardinalwiseman.net
KS4 (Years 10 & 11) - Miss Kelly - skelly@cardinalwiseman.net

Please email the relevant member of staff if you have a questions or concerns regarding any of the following:

- Teaching and Learning: Mrs C Stoker - cstoker@cardinalwiseman.net
- Attendance and Punctuality: Mrs Commander - kcommander@cardinalwiseman.net
- Careers: Mrs Meersand - smeersand@cardinalwiseman.net

If you feel that you have not had a satisfactory answer or response to your concern then contact the Head Teacher: rswanwick@cardinalwiseman.net

**Drop-In Sessions**

Every morning from 8:40 until 9:30 we have an open parental drop-in where you can tell a member of the Senior Leadership Team or Pastoral Team your concerns or ask questions of any kind and they will pass on your query to the appropriate member of staff who will contact you as soon as possible.

**Progress Evening**

All parents/carers are expected to attend Progress Evening as this is crucial to the success of the children.

**School Website - www.cardinalwiseman.net**

Our school website has a lot of information about the school. Each month a news letter called the Monthly Mail is posted on our website and this news letter has a mixture of reports about recent events that have taken place in our school as well as informing parents about up and coming events.

We also have a Twitter feed & an up-to-date news feed on the homepage. Parents are encouraged to regularly look at our web page to keep in touch with what is happening in our busy school community.
Parental Contact with the School

ParentMail

Improving School Communications with ParentMail

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do. Making sure you get the correct information about activities, events and things that really matter for your child, is what we aim to do.

We have been using ParentMail for the last few years with great success. It is used by over 6000 schools, nurseries and children’s clubs to communicate with parents. ParentMail is beneficial because you can:

- Use a free mobile app (detailed below) on Android and iOS to pick up school messages instantly
- Top up dinner money and view your child’s food choices
- Pay for trips
- Buy ties, badges and revision guides
- Complete forms, give consent/permissions and give feedback on surveys

Registering with ParentMail is very easy. You will have an email and/or text message sent to you from ParentMail when your child starts with us and when you receive this please just follow the instructions in the message.

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guaranteed that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone please download the ParentMail app for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for the “ParentMail” app in your app store.

An easier way for you to make school payments

We have been using +Pay on ParentMail – an online payment service which allows you to pay for school items quickly and easily on your smartphone, tablet or computer.

We will inform you about items you need to pay for through ParentMail, and you will be able to pay electronically, using credit or debit cards.

If you have an Android or Apple smartphone, please download the free ParentMail App so that you can make easy, online payments on the go. To do this, simply search for “ParentMail” in your App store.

If you do not wish to make dinner money payments online, you can of course, continue to make cash payments via the biometric fingerprint system and your child can add money to the machine in the Long Gallery. Please note, your bank statement will display either the school name or ParentMail, dependent on your payment method.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please use the help site: www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ or please contact Mrs Woodley in the school office.

More and more schools are using this method of going “cashless” and it is easier for parents and the school. Win, win!
Home School Contract

A strong partnership between home and school will let us take your child forward in faith

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School will ensure:

That your child is a valued and safe member of our school community.
Your child will be able to achieve their full potential academically, socially and spiritually.
We will alert you if we have any concerns about your child and we will be available for you should you have any concerns or queries that you wish to discuss.

Parents/Carers must support the school in setting high standards:

I/we will support the Catholic values of the school.
I/we will ensure that the school has current address and a minimum of two contact numbers in case of an emergency and additional contacts that can be called.
I/we will make sure that my/our child attends school, on time, maintaining attendance of 95% or above. If they are unable to attend I/we will contact the school to notify us of the reason why.
I/we will not take out child out of school for holidays or family events.
I/we will ensure that my/our child wears the correct uniform at all times.
I/we understand that poor behaviour of any kind, particularly racism and bullying will not be tolerated. If rules are broken my/our child will accept the sanctions of the school.
I/we will ensure that my/our child attends school with all necessary kit and equipment.
I/we will ensure that my/our child completes homework to the required standard and submits on time.
I/we will ensure that my/our child attends compulsory revision sessions (from Year 10 onwards).
I/we will attend all Progress Evenings.
I/we will ensure that my/our child behaves appropriately on the journey to and from school.
I/we will ensure that my/our child behaves appropriately online.
I/we will conduct any communications with school staff respectfully.

Signed;

Parent/carer ________________________________

Pupil _________________________

Head Teacher/or representative ________________________________

Mr R Swanwick

Date ______________________
Timings of the school day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.35</td>
<td>Pupils make their way to class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.20</td>
<td>Formation Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.40</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.55</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.35</td>
<td>Period 5 (Years 10-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KS3 lunch (Years 7-9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>Period 5 (Years 7-9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>KS4 lunch (Years 10-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>School day ends</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extra-Curricular Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Home Learning Support</td>
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<td>Revision</td>
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Term Dates

There will be 5 Teacher Training Days throughout the academic year. Families will be informed about these dates when they have been confirmed.

School Year 2020 to 2021

Autumn Term 2020

Term Starts: Tuesday 1 September 2020  
Half Term: Monday 26 October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020  
Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2020

Spring Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 4 January 2021  
Half Term: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021  
Term Ends: Thursday 1 April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19 April 2021  
Half Term: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021  
Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July 2021
Cardinal Wiseman is a Catholic school, built on the foundation of our Faith in Jesus Christ and established to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church. Our Catholic faith influences everything we do in our school community.

We welcome all faiths to our school and are inclusive of all in society.

Our faith is at the centre of everything we do as expressed by our mission statement ‘Omnia Pro Christo’. Our Catholic identity is characterised by daily acts of worship for all and our shared ‘Wiseman Virtues’ that describe the qualities we hope students will develop as their journey through our school.

Religious education is at the heart of our curriculum and is studied by students during their time at the school. Through the subject, students explore their faith, the faith of the Catholic Church and others and are prepared to be citizens in today’s multi-faith society.

Acts of collective worship in the school such as the celebration of Mass, liturgies, services and times of prayer are participated in by staff and students. Any member of our school community must show mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.
Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.

Our school will support all children by:

- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment
- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

In order to protect our children, we aim to:

- Create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to
- Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse
- Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse

Everyone working with our children, their parents and carers should be aware that their role is to:

- **Listen** and note carefully any observations which could indicate abuse
- Not to attempt to investigate once the initial concern is raised
- **Refer** to the Designated Senior Lead (DSL) immediately
- Contact the Head or the Deputy DSL if the DSL is not available
- **Remember** disclosures of abuse or harm from children may be made at any time

*If anything worries you or concerns you, report it straight away*

If you have any concerns that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following members of staff as soon as possible:

**DSL name**

**Anthony Beckett**

**Deputy DSL name**

**Esther Short**

If they are not available, please email dsl@cardinalwiseman.net

Everyone working with our children, their parents and carers should be aware that their role is to:

- **Listen** and note carefully any observations which could indicate abuse
- Not to attempt to investigate once the initial concern is raised
- **Refer** to the Designated Senior Lead (DSL) immediately
- Contact the Head or the Deputy DSP if the DSP is not available
- **Remember** disclosures of abuse or harm from children may be made at any time

*If anything worries you or concerns you, report it straight away*
If you have any concerns that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact the DSL team as soon as possible:

**dsl@cardinalwiseman.net**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Beckett</td>
<td>Lead DSL / Assistant Headteacher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abeckett@cardinalwiseman.net">abeckett@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther Short</td>
<td>Deputy DSL / Pastoral Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eshort@cardinalwiseman.net">eshort@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Evitts</td>
<td>Safeguarding Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:levitts@cardinalwiseman.net">levitts@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Swanwick</td>
<td>Deputy DSL / Headteacher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rswanwick@cardinalwiseman.net">rswanwick@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Allen</td>
<td>Deputy DSL / SENCO</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jallen@cardinalwiseman.net">jallen@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Beavan</td>
<td>Deputy DSL / Assistant Headteacher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lbeavan@cardinalwiseman.net">lbeavan@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Commander</td>
<td>Deputy DSL / Attendance Officer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kcommander@cardinalwiseman.net">kcommander@cardinalwiseman.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mental Health and Wellbeing

“Mental health is about our feelings, our thinking, our emotions and our mood. Looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health.”

Anna Freud – National Centre for Children and Families

Mental wellbeing describes your mental state – how you are feeling and how well you can cope with day-to-day life. Our mental wellbeing is dynamic. It can change from moment to moment, day to day, month to month or year to year.

At Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School we value the importance of mental wellbeing for all of our pupils, parents/carers and staff. Here are just a few of the things that we do in regards to mental health and wellbeing:

- The Mental Health lead is Mr Beckett (abeckett@cardinalwiseman.net)
- We proactively teach our pupils every year through our PSHE (Personal, Social, Heath and Economic) and RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) curriculum about wellbeing and resilience. This includes coping with exam stress, healthy lifestyles, mental and emotional wellbeing, managing loss, building resilience, online safety etc.
- We deliver assemblies about mental wellbeing and resilience to pupils as and when necessary.
- We strive to ensure that all of our pupils have a trusted adult in school who they feel they can talk to if they have any concerns. We have set up an email address for pupils to use if they have any concerns: worried@cardinalwiseman.net.
- We have display boards informing and signposting pupils to support both within school and externally. Other members of the Senior Leadership Team and key staff are responsible for focussing on the mental wellbeing of staff and/or pupils.

“It’s OK to not be OK!”

Sometimes it feels like society says you should be always happy, and that showing your sadness is a sign of weakness. This is far from true – if you were to hold in all your sadness or anger you would explode. We all have good and bad days. No one can be perfectly happy all of the time. That is not human. One day you feel on top of the world, the next you are down. That’s why at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School we teach our pupils that it’s OK to not be OK!

Good Mental Health and Wellbeing

If you have good mental wellbeing you are able to:

- feel relatively confident in yourself and have positive self-esteem
- feel and express a range of emotions
- build and maintain good relationships with others
- feel engaged with the world around you
- live and work productively
- cope with the stresses of daily life
- adapt and manage in times of change and uncertainty
Tips about Good Mental Health

Simple things that you can do to look after your mental health, either by yourself or with other people.

Eat good food - It's good for your mood! Did you know that your mind is affected by what you eat? Try to eat healthy food and drink plenty of water, to keep your body and brain feeling good!

Keep active - Scientists have discovered that exercise makes you feel good. It can be anything from football, skating or running to yoga and trampolining – whatever you enjoy!

Talk to others - Talk to other people about things that are bothering you and how you are feeling. Although it can be difficult at first, talking with a good friend, family member or a grown-up you trust can really help.

Believe in yourself - Make a list of things that you like about yourself – this could be about your personality, what kind of friend you are, the way you look and things that you can do. If you find it hard to think of ideas, ask yourself “if someone close to me was writing this list about me, what would they say?” Keep this list and look at it when you’re finding it hard to believe in yourself

Take time to chill out and relax - People find different things help them relax – it could be having a bath, watching a funny film, drawing, reading or going for a walk. Try different things and see what works for you.

Get plenty of sleep - Try to go to bed at a similar time each night and get up at a similar time each morning. Avoid using computers or playing on things like iPads before bed – the light they make can keep your brain awake even after you stop playing!

Advice and Support

There are many ways to access support both within school and externally.
Within school we encourage all children to share their worries/concerns with any member of staff that they feel they can trust. This could be their tutor, Head of Year, Raising Standards Leader, staff who work within the Learning Support Centre, a Lay Chaplain, one the safeguarding team or any other member of staff.

Pupils can email the Safeguarding Team (DSLs) at worried@cardinalwiseman.net

There are many organisations and charities where support can be offered. Here are just a few examples:
MindED – e-learning to support healthy minds - www.minded.org.uk/
Childline - 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk/
NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 - www.nspcc.org.uk/
Hub of Hope - hubofhope.co.uk/
MIND - www.mind.org.uk/
Kooth – free, safe and anonymous online support for young people - www.kooth.com/

“A problem shared is a problem halved – it’s good to talk!”
Online Safety

Online Safety is an ever growing and changing area of interest and concern. The internet and related technologies, including mobile devices such as phones, gaming media, tablets, and watches, are developing rapidly and are integral to the daily lives of our students.

Many of these technologies are used to enable students to engage creatively with their learning. Socially, our students often use the internet for entertainment, interaction and communication with ‘friends’ – bringing about new risks which many adults were never faced with. It has never been more important for parents and carers to understand how their children use the internet and associated technologies, so that they can help to manage the risks that exist and reinforce the important online safety messages that we should all be promoting.

At Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School we aim to equip our pupils with the knowledge needed to make the best use of the internet and technology in a safe, considered and respectful way, so they are able to reap the benefits of the online world.

Online Safety Measures in School

Here are some the ways in which we promote online safety at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School:

- Online Safety is taught in PSHE and Computing lessons
- Online safety is taught in Computing lessons
- We monitor online activity within the school and on school devices to ensure that inappropriate sites are not accessed by pupils or staff.
- Mr Beckett (Assistant Head Teacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead) is responsible for online safety
- We provide advice and support for parents/carers and offer workshops
- All relevant staff are trained in Online Safety

If parents/carers have a concern regarding their child’s online behaviour, please contact the Safeguarding Team at the following email address: dsl@cardinalwiseman.net

Monitoring System at Cardinal Wiseman

We have a monitoring system on all computers/chromebooks etc. in school. Every time a pupil logs on and every time they type something into a computer it is being logged. Even if they delete it – it has been captured on our monitoring system. Our monitoring system enables Mr Beckett, Dr. Beavan and Mr Swanwick to see anything that is inappropriate. This includes: bad language/swear words, anything of a sexual nature, anything relating to criminal activity, anything homophobic etc., racism, violence, extremist views drugs / addiction etc.

We receive the following information:

- Name of the person logged on
- The serial number of the computer/chromebook/device being used
- The date and time
- The words that are concerning
- A screenshot/image of what is on your screen – what you are looking at – we can see if it is inappropriate
Online Safety

Ensure that you are using school equipment correctly
- Do not type anything inappropriate into a school device
- Do not search for inappropriate material
- Do not listen to songs on youtube

Think before you type – make the right choice! Be discerning.

Advice for Parents/Carers and Children

10 tips to stay safe online
Not sure what advice to give your child? Here are 10 tips.
1. You should only talk to people you know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be a child online
2. If you do talk to people you don’t know, don’t give away personal information – like what street you live on or where you go to school, or share your location with them. Say no to any requests they send you for images or videos of yourself, and stop talking to them
3. Set your profiles to private, to limit what others can see
4. Be ‘share aware’ – think carefully about what you share and with who. Once it’s out there, you’ve got no control over what the other person does with it. Remember, it’s illegal to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop
5. Be mindful of your digital footprint. What you post online now could come back to bite you later, like when applying for jobs, college or university
6. If you see something upsetting, or someone bullies you, tell an adult you trust
7. Be aware that people will try to make their lives look more exciting online. There’s a lot people can do with photo editing to make their photos look better. So don’t assume everything you see is a true to life representation
8. Watch out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you’re meant to forward on or that ask you for payment details or your password
9. Take any content that glamorises gang lifestyles with a very large pinch of salt – it’s not as glamorous as it looks. Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money too, they’re almost definitely criminal activity
10. Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can get sucked into spending lots of money on them

Don’t feel confident starting a conversation with your child about what they’re up to online? Read this advice from the NSPCC: [https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety)

The following website are useful for parents/carers and children to learn more about online safety:
[https://www.internetmatters.org/](https://www.internetmatters.org/) - helping parents keep their children safe online
[https://parentinfo.org/](https://parentinfo.org/) - help and advice for families in a digital world
[https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers](https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers) - information you need to keep your child safe online
[https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/) - online safety tips and advice
[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/) - raise awareness of online child abuse
Health and Safety

A safe working environment is provided and all visitors are expected to cooperate in the maintenance of the high standard of safe practice.

**Emergency procedures** - (Fire Evacuation / Bomb Threat / Dynamic Lockdown)

In emergencies, an alarm, siren/bell is operated. Keep calm and follow the instructions of a member of staff. Here is a overview of the different emergency procedures, the alarm/siren and what to you need to do:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fire Evacuation</th>
<th>School bell</th>
<th>Immediate leave the building by the nearest exit and proceed to the assembly point – the playground. You may be re-directed to an alternative location.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bomb Threat Evacuation</td>
<td>Warning sirens</td>
<td>This is the opposite to evacuating the building – this is where we lock ourselves into rooms for our own safety. All children to be moved into locked rooms. Keep away from windows and doors and be silent. The aim is to not be visible or heard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic Lockdown</td>
<td>School bell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 short rings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Entry into buildings, areas etc.**
You must not enter any area of the building unless accompanied by your host or you are permitted to do so.

**Parking**
Vehicles must be parked in the designated car parks. Unauthorised parking can seriously hinder emergency access.

**Security**
The school accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage to visitor's property.

**No smoking**
The school operates a no smoking policy throughout the school site.

‘The safety and well-being of students is given a high priority in school policies and actions. Students say they feel safe.’
Ofsted Dec 2014
Culture for Learning

At Cardinal Wiseman we believe that the very best is possible for our children. To this end we expect behaviour and attitude to learning to be **outstanding**. Our staff wish to praise the children at every opportunity. All pupils can expect to receive praise for meeting the **Wiseman Virtues** (see diagram above). We expect our Culture for Learning to be maintained by all members of the community. This includes whilst representing the school during trips and sporting fixtures, when travelling between lessons and whilst on the journey to/from school. Where conduct does not meet our expectations there is a clear and fair system of sanctions (including loss of unsupervised time, detention, removal from class, internal exclusion and longer placements in the Emmaus Centre). Parents and carers can expect to be contacted where a pupil’s conduct does not meet our expectations. We seek to develop the whole child (including conduct) with the full support of parents/carers.

The children and staff of Cardinal Wiseman can be proud of the **good** and **improving** behaviour here. We aim to continue to improve and provide the best life chances for all who attend.

**Pupil Code of Conduct**

All pupils must aspire to the Wiseman Virtues. Those who demonstrate these Virtues can expect praise and reward. Those who fail to do so can expect to be challenged.

We expect all pupils to:

- Show respect to all
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect and report issues promptly
- Behave in an orderly and self-controlled way
- Make every effort to be punctual both to school and learning activities
- Follow the reasonable instructions of all staff
- At all times be considerate of the learning needs of those around them
- Move safely and quietly around the school including between lessons
- Carry and maintain the contents of a school **Tuffbag (see essential equipment list)**
- Wear the correct uniform at all times
- Accept sanctions when given
- Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when outside school and online.
- Understand that mobile phones and other devices are only to be used in school time under the clear guidance of a member of staff.
### Uniform

You will be issued with a **uniform and equipment list** during induction. We expect pupils and staff to adhere to our dress code without exception. It is our intention not only that all members of the learning community recognise this as a place of learning and respect, but also, the children are prepared for their careers when they leave. Standard of dress and preparedness have a big role to play in this.

Under normal circumstances a pupil not in correct uniform will not be allowed to attend timetabled lessons. Instead they may be required to work in Emmaus whilst a solution is sought. If you ever have a concern regarding uniform please do not hesitate to contact the school. We often have spare uniform to lend.

As you prepare your child for the coming year please consider two key points: we expect all children to wear appropriate **school shoes** (pictures are provided on the uniform list); **jewellery is not permitted** (this includes ear studs).

### Stationery

![Stationery Image]

To ensure that teachers are maximising the time they are teaching, and not having to waste time handing out stationery, we are going to provide every pupil with the stationery as shown in the photo on the left. This includes:
- Two black pens
- Two pencils
- Red pen
- Highlighter
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Achievement card

All pupils will be expected to look after their stationery.

We will set up a system in school where students will be able to buy new equipment. **Expectation: all students must have a full stationery set on them at all times.**

### Mobile Phones

Pupils are allowed to bring mobile phones to school.

It is the pupils responsibility to look after their phone.

Pupils are not allowed to use their mobile phone on the school grounds.

Mobile phones and other devices are only to be used in school time under the clear guidance of a member of staff.

Staff may confiscate a mobile phone if a pupil breaks the rules.
We will be introducing a new system of Achievement Cards (AC) to log and monitor the behaviour of pupils. This will enable us to minimise low-level behaviour issues in school. Every child will be expected to carry an achievement card with them at all times so that they can collect their credits. Any pupil who is unable to display an achievement card (whether during learning time or not) will face a same-day consequence. No excuses. Tutors and Heads of Year will have oversight of the achievement cards. Key staff will have a stock of replacements. Every Wednesday tutors will issue new cards to their tutees and collect in their old ones.

**Achievement Card**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Surname</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEAR group</td>
<td>Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Focus</td>
<td>Get to lessons on time after break and lunchtime</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CW Achievement Card Codes**

- **EQ**: Lack of equipment
- **HW**: Homework
- **EF**: Lack of Effort
- **LA**: Late to Lesson
- **OT**: Off-task/lack of focus
- **UN**: Uniform

**Parents /carers must sign every Tuesday Evening**

I acknowledge that I have seen this achievement card and understand that my child is in detention on Thursday after school for accumulating five or more non-credits.

**Parents /Carers Signature ____________________________**

**Terms and Conditions of Achievement Card**

If you lose your achievement card then it is replaced with a yellow copy. You will lose your break-time if this happens.

You will lose your break-time if your achievement card is not signed by a parent/carer on a Tuesday evening.

**Expectation:** all pupils must carry their AC with them at all times.

**Parents/carers must sign their card on Tuesday evening.**
Absolutes

Our ‘Absolutes’ are a list of things that all staff will expect from all of our pupils.

In the corridors:

- walk quietly and with purpose - if the bell has gone you must make your way to lesson!
- walk on the left in corridors and crowded areas
- all pupils will carry their planner, pencil case and achievement card in their hands!
- be respectful of those around you – never push or be impolite

Lessons:

- **Remove coats** before entering the learning space
- Enter the learning space in silence apart from salutation (good morning Miss/Sir, good afternoon Miss/Sir)
- Collect resources on arrival
- Put your **planner, achievement card** and **pencil case** on the desk
- Begin the ‘**do now**’ task immediately
- Answer the register by saying ‘yes Miss’ or ‘yes Sir’
- At the end of the lesson stand behind your chair. Put your book in the box on the way out.
- Leave the lesson in silence and make your way with purpose to your next lesson.
- We want STARs! – see explanation below.

  **Sit up straight**
  **Track the speaker**
  **Ask and answer questions**
  **Respect those around you**

**Equipment essentials:**

- Stationery – pencil case with all equipment
- **Achievement card**
- **Planner**
- A suitable **school bag**
- A refillable **water bottle** (drinks other than water are not permitted in lessons)
- Other things (such as appropriate PE kit) are to be brought in according to timetable
- Suitable clothing for inclement weather – students must not come to school soaking wet on days where the rain is predicted. Please ensure that your child has a suitable jacket/umbrella.
Curriculum

Our curriculum at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School has three main aims:

- To empower all students to achieve to the best of their ability to enable them to be successful in life
- To enable pupils to seek and find the Truth about the world
- To promote the intellectual development of all pupils

To enable us to achieve these aims we have utilised a curriculum that is described as knowledge-engaged. A curriculum of this nature views the acquisition of knowledge as fundamental and will provide our students with the knowledge they need to succeed in the wider world.

Within lessons, students will predominantly complete their classwork within subject specific ‘Knowledge Books’ which have been expertly created by our teachers and are unique to our school. Once completed these become an invaluable revision tool for students and enable them to reflect upon their learning. Students at Cardinal Wiseman are proud of the work that they produce and the progress that they make within their subjects and most importantly, they enjoy their learning.

Our Key Stage 3 curriculum offer is broad and balanced with students studying all National Curriculum subjects. At KS4 we offer a traditional curriculum including the Core Curriculum (Maths, English, Science, RE) and Foundation Curriculum (Computing, Physical Education, Citizenship), along with Arts (Art & Design, Music, Drama, Dance), Design and Technology (Food Technology), Humanities (Geography, History), Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish). This demonstrates academic ambition for all.

“Knowledge is Power”
Transformation Curriculum

What is it?
The Transformation Curriculum is a unique part of life at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School for students and staff. All staff across the school provide a range of activities on a Friday afternoon to enable our pupils to learn new skills, develop skills as well as providing opportunities for our pupils to work within our community.

Pupils get to opt for the activities that they are interested in doing and all pupils will be involved in a range of different activities as most activities last for one term.

It is called the ‘Transformation Curriculum’ as it is designed to transform our pupils’ lives. Some activities on offer are about providing new opportunities for students to discover their talents, some are about deepening and enriching their lives whilst other activities lead to qualifications.

Over 30 activities are on offer each term and have included Water Polo, Maths Mastery (working with the most able Year 6 Maths student), Chess, Baking for Beginners, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Craft for All, Sports Leaders Award, British Sign Language, Helping Primary School Children to Read, Photography - Beyond the Selfie, Yoga, Debatemate, Intergenerational Inspiration (working with senior citizens at Manor House and Digging Deep (Gardening) to name a just a few.

Why are we doing this?

Developing pupils’ character - including their confidence, independence and resilience.
Broaden our pupils’ horizons with new opportunities and enriching experiences.
To enable pupils to develop and discover their interests and God given talents.
Prepare pupils to be active citizens who contribute positively to society.
Prepare them for their adult lives.
Strengthen pupils’ sense of belonging within our school community.
Develop social skills - working alongside pupils from other year groups and within the local community.

“Schools are crucial in preparing pupils for their adult lives, teaching them to understand how to engage with society and providing them with plentiful opportunities to do so.” - Ofsted
Wider Personal Development

As a Catholic school, we strongly value the development of the whole child. We know that good examination results are important for future success. However, we strive to provide a fully rounded education where our children become great citizens who can function effectively in life in modern Britain. With that in mind, the Wiseman Virtues are at the heart of our school. We reflect upon and use these 16 virtues across the school in many ways such as our merit system, rewards events, assemblies, prayer etc.

Alongside the core curriculum of lessons such as Maths & Science, we also provide a broad range of lessons and activities throughout the year which are essential in the wider personal development of every child. These include:

- **PSHE** (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education – this is taught once a week during Formation Tutor time. Below is table of the PSHE plan for 2020/21. Please note that the PSHE curriculum can change due to the need to address specific matters as they arise. You will see that we cover a wide range of themes, including well-being, careers and safety;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Autumn 1</th>
<th>Autumn 2</th>
<th>Spring 1</th>
<th>Spring 2</th>
<th>Summer 1</th>
<th>Summer 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>RSE - (Relationships and Sex Education)</td>
<td>Healthy Relationships</td>
<td>Respecting equality in our diverse community</td>
<td>British Values</td>
<td>Media Influence - social media and online safety (longer topic - 3 weeks instead of 6)</td>
<td>Personal Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Online Safety</td>
<td>Mental and emotional wellbeing</td>
<td>Careers</td>
<td>Managing loss inc. bereavement, separation and divorce</td>
<td>Peer pressure inc. tobacco, alcohol, drugs, online gambling</td>
<td>Building Resilience Against Radicalisation and Extremism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Building Resilience Against Gangs and County Lines</td>
<td>Bullying and Abuse</td>
<td>Peer or peer violence</td>
<td>Faith Based Abuse</td>
<td>Mental and emotional wellbeing</td>
<td>Careers - WEX launch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Knife crime and carrying offensive weapons</td>
<td>Mental and emotional wellbeing</td>
<td>Careers - WEX launch</td>
<td>Legal and illegal substances</td>
<td>Online Safety - Non-consensual sex, sex, relationships, rights and responsibilities at work</td>
<td>Building Resilience Against Extremism &amp; Intolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Exam stress and anxiety - ways of coping</td>
<td>Building Resilience Against Extremism &amp; Intolerance</td>
<td>Careers - rights and responsibilities at work</td>
<td>Transition - life beyond Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **In the News** – once a week, every child is taught about a current news story to learn more about the world we live in. Pupils are given time to express their thoughts and opinions as well as having time to listen to one another;

- **Assemblies** cover a range of topics and themes;

- **Careers** – we offer a huge range of careers based opportunities including:
  * Work Experience in Year 10
  * Trips to universities and colleges
  * One-to-one careers guidance with a trained careers advisor
  * Careers lessons during PSHE
  * Careers Fair

- **RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)** – this becomes compulsory for all schools in Sept 2020. This is taught through RE, Science and PSHE lessons. Our RSE curriculum is mapped across all year groups to ensure that content taught is age appropriate. Furthermore, it is taught with careful consideration of our Catholic values.

- **Rewards** – we reward and praise our pupils for their personal achievements in many ways including merits, end of term awards assemblies and the end of year Awards Ceremony at The Holte Suite (AVFC).
Extra Curricular and Enrichment

At Cardinal Wiseman we know that examination results can open and close doors for the pupils that we serve. However, we also know how important it is for our pupils to be well-rounded individuals who have had a range of experiences in modern life. Therefore, we expect that all pupils take advantage of the wide range of enrichment and extra curricular activities that are on offer.

The activities change throughout the year. Therefore, up-to-date timetables can be found on the school website in the Curriculum tab.

Why should pupils get involved in extra curricular activities?

⇒ Make new friends with people who have a similar interest
⇒ Improve your social skills
⇒ Improve your academic performances
⇒ Learn and develop skills
⇒ Extend your knowledge and understanding
Home Learning

Year 7 to Year 9 students receive approximately six hours’ of homework per week—this covers all of their subjects. Home learning will largely focus on consolidating what they have learned in lessons to ensure their new knowledge is secure.

All home learning is completed in a home learning book which pupils carry with them at all times. Pupils receive a new homework book with all tasks which need to be completed every half term. Parents are expected to sign their child’s home learning book weekly.

With almost a million students starting year 7 across the country in 2020, it’s important that your child is committed to furthering their education outside of the classroom to give them the best possible chances of success.

In Year 10 and 11, pupils will again receive approximately six hours’ of homework per week. This will largely be revision based to prepare them for their upcoming examinations.

HLS (Home Learning Support)

We understand that for some pupils, it can be challenging to complete their homework at home. We also understand that for many students, they will be receiving more homework than they have at primary school—and we are committed to supporting them in this transition.

Therefore, pupils have the opportunity to come to the Library and Room 13 (computer room) to do their homework if they choose to at lunch time. There are always staff available to support. Furthermore, students can choose to attend home learning support after school in Centralised Cover where they have access to computers and staff available if they have any questions. Finally, Miss Scovell runs an optional homework club to support pupils after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

If a child does not submit their homework on time, or it is of a poor quality, they will be expected to attend HLS to catch up—normally the following day. Parents/carers are informed about this via text message. HLS runs from 3.15 — 4pm.
Reading at Cardinal Wiseman

At Cardinal Wiseman we promote reading at every opportunity. The relationship between reading and attainment are well known and this is why we have a bespoke programme in place for every student in our care. Whether your child is a beginning reader or one who actively reads for pleasure at every opportunity, our programmes ensure the appropriate levels of challenge and support are in place to help make them become the very best reader that they can be.

To encourage this, we have a dedicated **30-minute reading period** at the end of the day from Monday to Thursday for all our students in Years 7-10. During this time your child will follow a personalised programme appropriate to their ability.

**Our programmes include:**

- **Independent Reading;** students choose their own reading matter whilst being supported and guided by teaching staff and the librarians
- **Reciprocal reading;** a centrally-selected fiction or non-fiction text will be analysed in depth by the whole class using prediction, questioning, clarification and summary
- **Whole-Class reading;** an age and stage appropriate text will be selected for the group to read together for enjoyment
- **Literacy Progress Units;** an intensive series of lessons to boost literacy levels of students with reading ages lower than their chronological ages
- **Lexia;** a computer-based programme which helps with the development of oral language, reading, spelling, and writing skills
- **Read Write Fresh Start;** a phonics-based programme delivered by specially trained staff in small groups to help with students who need more intensive support to raise their reading age

In addition, we have **Accelerated Reader** for all students in Years 7-10 which ensures that students have a choice of books to read for pleasure whilst containing appropriate levels of stretch and challenge to improve their reading age and ability. Students complete a quiz for each book that they read and will be tested twice annually to ensure that they are progressing and to highlight where they may need support in their reading.

**Homework Booklets** for Year7-9 students require them to complete 12 book reviews (of which 6 should be non-fiction) per academic year and guidance is included to prompt them as they write.

Our **Library** is well stocked and staffed by qualified librarians who can help and guide your children to select books to broaden their reading experience.

We also encourage parents to ensure that their children join the Central and local libraries to broaden their access to appropriate reading material and ensure that they read for at least 20 minutes per day when they are at home.
School Catering

At Cardinal Wiseman School we use a cashless catering system. It is a ‘biometric’ system which enables us to deliver an efficient, fast service whilst continuing to provide wholesome, healthy and enjoyable meals at the lowest cost.

All pupils are required to have the tip of their first two fingers scanned, in order to be registered on the system. The system works by each pupil having their fingerprint registered which will then be translated to an Alpha Numeric number. The image is then discarded. When used this will then enter pupils into the system program and identify them by a number. The pupil places their finger on a scanner at the point of sale and a display shows the pupil’s name, class and current balance held within the system. The selected food items are entered from an itemised keyboard while the amount spent and the new cash balance shows on the display.

No cash is accepted at the food counter ‘Till Point’. Parents should use ParentMail to add funds to pupils accounts. There is a pay point in the Long Gallery where pupils can top up their accounts with cash.

The system works exactly the same for all pupils whether they pay or have free school meals. All pupils have their own account to use in exactly the same way. The amount allocated for the free school meal will be entered into the system by the software on a daily basis. This must be used on the same day as free school meal entitlements are not carried over to the following day, however any top ups the children do themselves will stay on the system until used.

Parents can monitor details of each item of food served so they can see for themselves the diet their child is following. This information can be obtained from ParentMail.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school.
At Cardinal Wiseman we strive to ensure that all students can access the curriculum, integrate into our community, and achieve their potential. In line with the SEN Code of Practice, we identify and provide for the following areas of need: cognition and learning; social, emotional and mental health; communication and interaction; and sensory and physical needs. In the first instance, these needs are met through classroom teaching, which scaffolds work for students and makes adjustments that are reasonable to ensure they are able to access the lesson. For students whose learning needs require further support, we timetable targeted interventions for small groups, focusing on improving literacy, numeracy, emotional resilience and social skills. For students who require further specialist help beyond these interventions, we have external support from: Pupil Support Services, (for learning issues); an Educational Psychologist; a Speech and Language Therapist; Sensory Support (for students who may have impairments to hearing or sight); and the Communication and Autism Team, (for students with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder).

To help monitor and direct all of these levels of support, students have a Learning Support Plan (LSP), which details their barriers to learning and recommends key strategies; these are made in collaboration with teaching staff and, increasingly, with students. Students’ progress is tracked, analysed, and monitored by the SENCO (Mr Allen), and this informs the LSP and intervention timetable. Students and their parents are invited to a regular reviews of their progress and integration in school. The school governor for SEN monitors the effectiveness of all of this provision.

**English as an Additional Language (EAL)**

A child has EAL if English is either: not the first language they learned; not the language in which they are most proficient; or not the language they speak at home.

If a child’s EAL makes it difficult for them in school, we support them in a variety of ways. When students require translation in lessons they may have the opportunity to use Google Translate, to help them understand and contribute to the lesson. Some students also come to the Learning Support Centre for consolidation sessions, in which our coaches help them to improve their understanding and use of the language from their lessons.

There are regular opportunities for students and their parents have the opportunity to come and discuss how things are going in school with the SEN department. The school governor for SEN checks how well this support is working.

Please contact Mr Allen if you have any questions or concerns regarding SEND or EAL.
### Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are extremely important at Cardinal Wiseman as we recognise that in order for students to achieve their potential they must be present at school at all times where possible. As a school, in line with government targets, we set a benchmark of greater than 96% for all pupils with no more than five lates per academic year. If your child’s attendance falls below 95% or your child has more than five lates the school will take action to improve your child’s attendance. If your child’s attendance is below 90%, under government guidelines, your child will be classed as being persistently absent (PA) from school. Parents/carers of students where attendance is a concern could face legal action. This will trigger you being placed on the fast track campaign where you could be fined and may have to attend court.

If your child is absent from school it is your responsibility to inform the school before 9am. You should call Miss Commander, our Attendance officer on 0121 360 6383 EXT 1145 and explain the reason for the absence and the likely return date of your child. If you do not contact the school your child will receive an ‘O’ code to signify an unauthorised absence, which again could lead to further action. If your child’s attendance is of concern, no absences will be authorised without medical evidence such as a copy of a prescription, an appointment card from the doctors or a doctor’s note. Any concerns around attendance could trigger a home visit but especially where no contact has been given from home, regarding any absence, a home visit may take place to ensure the safety of the child.

The school does not authorise any family holidays in term time.

The school will authorise absence for:
- Illness (if evidence is provided for students with an attendance concern)
- Medical appointments (evidence to be provided)
- A funeral of an immediate family member
- Interview

Medical and dental/opticians appointments should wherever possible be made outside of school hours. However, where this is not possible, appointment letters/cards should be provided and the child must attend prior to or after the appointment wherever possible.

### Illness

Parents/carers must ring the school (360 6383 ext. 1145) every morning before 9am on each day of absence giving the child’s name, year group and a brief explanation regarding the illness. If your child is absent for more than 3 days in the school year we may request medical evidence.

A parent/carer must collect their child from school whenever a child becomes ill during the school day. Unwell children will not be allowed to leave the school site by themselves.

Pupils must not directly contact parents throughout the school day regarding illness. They should speak to a member of staff who will follow the correct procedure.
Caring for Pupils with Medical Conditions

Parent’s/Carer’s Responsibility

In most cases, parents will administer medicines to their children themselves out of school hours, but where this is not possible, parents of children in need of medication must ensure that the school is accurately advised about the medication, its usage and administration.

⇒ Parents are required to complete the Medical consent form—shared via parent mail. This will provide the school with permission to administer prescribed medical as well as medicines such as paracetamol or anti-histamines.
⇒ Parents are responsible for ensuring that all medication kept in school e.g. asthma pumps, Epi-pens are kept up to date.
⇒ Parents are responsible for notifying the school if there is a change in circumstances e.g. if a child is deemed to be no longer asthmatic.

Prescription Medicines

Medicines should be only bought to school when essential (where it would be detrimental to the child’s health if the medicine were not administered during the school day)

⇒ All medicines should be taken to the school office by a responsible adult

⇒ Medicines will only be accepted in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and with the prescriber’s instructions for administration

⇒ The medicine should be clearly marked with the child’s name and form/class group

⇒ Any medicine administered will be recorded by the staff member and the sheet kept in the box with the students name clearly marked on the box.

⇒ Medicines will only be accepted for administration in school on completion of the appropriate form by a parent or carer.

⇒ Inhalers are to be kept with the student at all times.

⇒ Epi-pens should be kept with the student but a spare one should also be kept in the office in a box.

Managing Medicines on School Trips

If a child requiring medication is out of school on a trip, the procedures previously described will apply as far as possible but with minor amendments. The medication along with the medical consent form and record of administering will be held by the trip leader. When medicines are administered the same conditions and recording procedure are to be followed.

Any medical information can be emailed to:- firstaid@cardinalwiseman.net
Starting a New School
How parents/carers can help their child

Starting a new school is a big step for many children, especially when moving from primary school to secondary school.

Professor Julian Elliott, an educational psychologist at Durham University, says: "For many children, secondary school represents a step towards autonomy and the whole process of growing up and leaving childhood behind." It can be overwhelming for children and parents alike.

But there are things you can do to make things easier, and things you can think about now that will help your child adjust and settle in quickly.

1. Build your child's confidence. Settling in well is all about self-esteem. Children with high self-esteem are less likely to be bullied, or to bully, or belong to gangs. They are more likely to gather a wide circle of friends. They can confidently say "no" to anything with which they don't feel comfortable. So tell them how great they are. When did you last pay them a compliment? They don't have to have done anything special to deserve one; a compliment on how well they look after a pet, or that they are kind or thoughtful, goes a long way. Do this daily and watch their confidence develop.

2. Listen to their fears. Your child is possibly anxious and also afraid their concerns will appear trivial. For instance, if they become lost in the maze of corridors, what should they do? They could make their way to the school office – they should have a map – or find a pupil or teacher to direct them. What they shouldn't do is hide in the toilets until the lesson is over. Talk through the options with them. Do this for every concern they may have so that they know you take it seriously.

3. Remind your child that being a good friend, especially to shy and quiet children, is one way to make friends. Be encouraging if they want to invite friends home and suggest it if they don't.

4. Show that you feel positive about their school and "talk it up" even if it was not your first choice or you lost an admissions appeal. If you have high expectations, these will be sensed by your child.

5. Have a trial run of the route, especially if they walk or cycle. If they miss a school bus home you need to talk through what they will do, especially if you are working and can't pick them up straight away.

6. Get up earlier during the last week of the holidays so that early starts for school aren't a shock to the system.

7. Stick to the uniform code. Your child will feel more comfortable from day one. Staff will speak to and challenge pupils whose uniform is not correct.

8. Make sure they have emergency money and credit on their mobile phone.

9. Think about any changes you might need to make at home so they have the time, space and energy for homework.

10. Encourage them to join lunchtime or after-school clubs. They are a great way to make friends. If after half a term they really don't enjoy it, they can drop it.

Give your child a few weeks to settle in. If they are having any problems, social or educational, make an appointment to see the relevant member of staff in school.
Quotes from Year 7 Pupils about Moving to Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

“I enjoy coming to school because my friends are always there to help me. People are nice to me and show me new places if I am lost. The teachers are always there to help me. I like being challenged by other teachers and I am proud of myself because I made the football team.”

“I have settled in well and have made new friends. I feel confident and calm. I have learnt new things and have been welcomed well by all the pupils at this school.”

“I always feel safe because I know that there will always be a teacher in sight and it has been extremely welcoming. The teachers are very kind and caring and they will be there for all your worries.”

“I have enjoyed moving from primary to secondary. I have made lots of new friends and learnt lots of new things. I also feel more responsible and mature. I feel happier and more positive about going to school.”

“The teachers are very kind and older students are polite and some were helpful on the first week of secondary school.”

“I feel that my transition from primary school to secondary school has been quite successful since I have settled in well and have made some new and amazing friends. I feel safe here and think that I will enjoy it.”

“I have enjoyed moving to primary to secondary school because I feel older, more responsible and more mature.”

“There are many things positives about Cardinal Wiseman but most spectacular subject is the charity work we do to help less privileged people. Along all these voluntary events we host I also enjoy the range of lessons we have.”

“I enjoy the after school clubs and I enjoy have and opportunity to have classes be able to learn different exciting things such as Food Music and Spanish.”