



SACRED HEART  
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Information for Parents/Carers 4th January 2021**

Following the announcement from the Prime Minister yesterday we would like to update you as much as possible on our plans for the weeks and months ahead. We keep all our pupils and their families in our prayers and are aware that the recent announcements put some families under increased pressure. We are working hard to provide the best possible educational experience for your children at this time.

#### **Arbor Parental Portal**

As I have previously mentioned, we are now using a new MIS system called Arbor which is able to communicate to you a range of information and deal with things such as consent for school trips, photographs etc. As communication is so important in these ever-changing times we feel that launching this app is now of paramount importance. **It is particularly relevant for gaining your consent for the testing programme we have been instructed to carry out by the government.** You will shortly receive an email detailing how to access the Arbor parental portal. Please follow the instructions provided as this will gradually become the main communication methodology the school will use to relay information to you. Whilst it does not currently make 'parent pay' redundant, it will eventually replace it as the main method of communication.

#### **Y11 Examinations**

We do not have definitive guidance on the government's intentions for assessing pupils in Y11 this academic year. **We would urge you to stress to your children the importance of attending live lessons during this period of school closure** as assessments may be conducted when we return to school which may significantly influence any judgement on pupil attainment and progress that the government may ask us to make. We are here to support your child's learning and staff will provide high quality online learning which your children must access and respond to. As soon as we have clear guidance on how assessment will be conducted we will let you know.

Headteacher: Dr P Caldwell

Sacred Heart Catholic Secondary School, Mersey Road, Redcar, TS10 1PJ

Tel: 01642 487100 | Email: [enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk) | Website: [sacredheart.npcat.org.uk](http://sacredheart.npcat.org.uk)

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### Timetable changes

During the week before Christmas, we issued new timetables to pupils in all year groups which they glued into their planners. The changes to the timetable involved some lessons moving to a different day/time but the class and the teacher staying the same. **Your child should follow this new timetable - in most cases, each of these lessons will be a live lesson that they will be expected to attend remotely until schools re-open.** We will email a copy of the timetable today. If your child did not receive their new timetable please contact [enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk) and we will email you a copy.

### Live Lessons

Teachers will be teaching live lessons from Tuesday 5th January Period 1. This means that your child will receive a Google Meet invite through their Google Classroom and will be able to remote into the lesson as the teacher delivers it live in school. Please remind your child to mute their microphone and switch off their camera during the live lessons, they need to use the chat function to ask a question.

### Problems with Google Classroom login

If your child cannot login to their Google Classroom please ring school on 01642 487100 or email [enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk) and our IT staff will support you with this.

### Laptops

We have some laptops available for loan for children who do not have access to a computer at home. Please contact the main office to organise this.

### Working from home

**It is an expectation that all children login to Google Classroom every day and take part in every live lesson until schools re-open.** We are aware that your child will not have their exercise books at home. Please can all work be completed on paper and saved in a folder to be returned when school re-opens. Paper and other stationery can be collected from school if required, please email your request so that we can prepare materials for their collection.

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Welfare calls

A member of the Pastoral Team will be contacting you over the next two weeks to check that your child is accessing their work and to help resolve any concerns you may have.

Free School Meals

If you are entitled to free school meals, and would like to collect packed lunches please email [fsm@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk](mailto:fsm@sacredheart.npcat.org.uk) to arrange a collection. Next week, from 11th January, we are planning to issue hampers of food which will last for one week.

Yours faithfully

*PJ Caldwell*

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Headteacher

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