



St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

ASPIRE + BELIEVE + ACHIEVE

16th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and yours well and looking forward to Christmas, albeit still in Tier 3. I shared a letter with you last week which came primarily from Trafford and included guidance about celebrating Christmas safely. I would like to reiterate that request again. We have been very fortunate at St Antony's to have only a small number of cases within the school community, none since my last letter to you all. This, I'm sure, is as a direct result of you keeping your families safe in the community and, as a result, not negatively impacting on the health and safety of others in school. Thank you in advance for continuing to do this over the Christmas break. If your son/daughter does test positive over the holiday, please inform me directly via f.wright@st-antonys.com. This is the only school contact which will be fully monitored. It is incredibly important that we are informed as this may have implications for other students and staff and, depending on the timing, may require contact tracing to take place.

All students will be receiving Autumn term reports in the next few days, Year 11 with full reports and the other year groups receiving interim ones.

It's been a very Christmassy day today at school with students and staff wearing their sparkly (and sometimes flashing!) jumpers and accessories and enjoying a wonderful Christmas dinner provided by Mrs Gorman and her kitchen team. On Friday students can wear non uniform for a £1 donation to Caritas. Today and tomorrow all students will be spending some time with Sister Linda and Sister Anna in the school Chapel taking part in a Christmas liturgy, helping them prepare for this important religious event. School will finish on Friday 18th December at approximately 12:45pm.

We return to school on Monday 4th January 2021. All students are expected to wear full school uniform every day, even when they have PE. We have COVID secure systems in place to enable them to change safely into their PE kits in the changing rooms.

I would like to again update you on the areas below, as I have done on a fortnightly basis, in order to keep you fully informed. This letter will also be published openly on our website and is being sent to our governors and trustees.

Structure of school day	<i>This is changing in January for KS4. As from Friday 8th January, students in KS4 should arrive at school for a 9am start. They should enter school via their usual entry points, ensuring no contact with other year groups/bubbles. KS4 students will finish at 3pm although there will be some change for this for study support for Year 11 following the January mocks. No change to the KS3 day who start at 8:55am.</i>
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Bradfield Road, Urmston, Manchester M41 9PD

Tel: 0161 911 8001 Email: stantonys.admin@trafford.gov.uk Website: st-antonys.com

Headteacher: Mrs F Wright



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Attendance	<i>Attendance remains high for all groups within school and significantly above national figures. Normal systems are in operation for poor attendance (non-COVID related). If your child is poorly with symptoms which do not match those of COVID, please send them into school. We will contact you if they are so poorly that they cannot access their learning.</i>
Coverage of the curriculum	<i>Careers/PHSE day was a great success yesterday with much thought and planning time given over to the students' futures post 16. Thank you to Mr Reynard for his organisation, Mrs Worthe for her support and Salford Foundation for their high quality resources.</i>
Remote learning	<i>The staff make great efforts to ensure that they set high quality work which will prevent absent students from falling behind. If your child is isolating and cannot access the work set (via their school email and Microsoft Teams) for any reason, please contact the school immediately. We are in the process of updating this aspect of the school website and this should be live post Christmas. We are also supporting KS3 with their literacy via a new resource, Bedrock learning, and KS4 with their exam preparation via GCSEPod. More information will follow in January.</i>
Mental health and wellbeing	<i>This term has seen a growing need for support for some of our students with their mental health and wellbeing. Whilst the large majority of students continue to flourish and remain unaffected, others have found the extended lockdown challenging. Staff have been wonderful in their support for those affected and appropriate interventions have been put in place for those that require them. We encourage parents to look at the school social media channels for guidance in supporting your child. In addition, student assemblies have detailed available support and we continue to remain vigilant for signs that individuals are struggling. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you feel your child may benefit from support.</i>

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times. Please remember to follow both the school's and Public Health guidance to keep everyone learning safely.

Have a restful and safe Christmas break.

With kind regards,

Mrs Fiona Wright – Headteacher

