



St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

ASPIRE + BELIEVE + ACHIEVE

27th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and that you are looking forward to some quality time together over the Bank Holiday weekend. Hopefully the weather will be better than it has been so far!

As you are aware from previous letters, we will be starting our new academic year in June. To ensure that this is done as efficiently as possible, school will be closing early for students on Friday 28th May 2021 at 12:30pm approximately. Lunch will not be provided that day, however students on free school meals can order a packed lunch with Mrs Gorman in the Canteen. **All** students should return to school at the later time of 10am on Monday 7th June 2021.

Testing continues to play a crucial role in the fight against coronavirus. Students should continue to test themselves twice a week, even during half term, and report their results. The email address for the sharing of results with school is CovidTesting@st-antonys.com. **If a child tests positive, please email f.wright@st-antonys.com immediately, even during half term. This will enable us to contact trace and ensure that we do all we can to prevent any spread.** The DfE have produced a blog on [why reporting your test result is as important as taking a test](#), featuring further guidance and common questions. This also includes details on financial support available to parents whose children are asked to self-isolate after contact with a positive case. Thank you all for your continued support with the testing process and for keeping your family COVID safe inside and outside of school.

I would like to again update you on the areas below, as I have done on a regular 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.

School reopening	As reiterated above, we will be moving to a new timetable after half term with all year groups effectively starting the next academic year. The pandemic has had a significant impact on the wellbeing and education of young people and the purpose of this move is to counteract some of this impact. In the first instance, KS3 classes will be finishing at 3:10pm and KS4 at 3:15pm, although consideration is being given to extending the school day in September. The COVID Risk Assessment has been updated and will be shared on the school website.
Attendance	Attendance continues to be strong, above both Trafford and national figures. Some parents, however, will have received letters giving notice of our intention to move forward with monitoring periods and possible fines if the attendance of their child does not improve. Thank you to all those who ensure that their child is in school, learning.

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Headteacher: Mrs F Wright



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Coverage of the curriculum	We continue to deliver all of the curriculum to all students. PHSE lessons will commence after half term on Fridays, delivered by form tutors. We are looking forward to expanding the enrichment element of the curriculum and this is beginning to happen with CCF recommencing and trips booked to both Manchester and London for Textiles and Art. I'm delighted to remind you that we are now the proud owners of a school minibus, which will enable us to further develop our extra-curricular provision. It was purchased with money from the School Fund (donations from parents etc) which was match-funded with a grant from the CCF. Several staff are now trained minibus drivers and we are sure the bus will have much use over the coming half term.
Remote learning	We have a very small number of students who, at any one time, continue to learn remotely for COVID reasons. As we move forward, we are looking to take all the positives from the use of technology during the 2021 lockdown and further develop learning, both in the classroom environment and at home.
Mental health and wellbeing	<p>The new area of the website focused on wellbeing is up and running and can be accessed here. Please take a look.</p> <p>The Report Abuse in Schools helpline is now available. The helpline was commissioned by the Department for Education in response to the troubling testimonies of sexual abuse and harassment shared on the Everyone's Invited website. The helpline provides support to those who have experienced abuse at school and parents and teachers who are concerned about sexual abuse in education settings.</p> <p><i>Young people and adults can contact Report Abuse in Education on 0800 136 663 or email help@nspcc.org.uk</i></p>

Year 11 students have now finished their assessments and will be working remotely on a package of learning and post 16 preparation which they have been provided with. We wish them all the best of luck as they continue on their journey of life. It's been a pleasure sharing these years with them.

Current Year 8s (who will be referred to as Yr9s after half term) have a Parents' Review on Thursday 1st July from 5pm to 7pm. This will be online and further information will be shared shortly.

Conversations will be with the teacher who has taught them this academic year from September 2021, in consultation with any new teacher once classes change in June.

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.

With kind regards,

Mrs Fiona Wright – Headteacher