



# Notre Dame Catholic College

Established 1869

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**Executive Headteacher:** Mr Matthew Symes BA(Hons) NPQH

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well and are coping with the current, difficult, situation. As you may be aware, the Government has directed schools to offer some 'face to face' communication between teachers and pupils in Year 10 and in Year 12 in addition to the on-line learning and resources in place since 20<sup>th</sup> March. There is no strict guidance on how this will be achieved and it is up to individual schools to decide how this will be delivered. We have discussed the issue with Governors, staff, Headteacher colleagues and Professional Associations and below is the information you will need to know relating to how much 'face to face' education your child will receive from 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to the end of the summer term, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

We would like to give your son/daughter the opportunity for some face to face communication with school staff. There is no legal requirement for attendance and parents/carers will not be prosecuted for non-attendance during the summer term. In addition, students will continue to be set on-line work for all subjects.

For Year 12 students, we are trialing Microsoft Teams and there may also be some attendance on-site on some Fridays over the next four weeks for the larger A-level groups: Sociology, Criminology, English literature and Health & Social Care. All classes will continue to have on-line learning and in the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020, the other A-level classes may be able to attend on-site as they will be the only year group in school. A timetable will be issued giving full details.

Although this is only a small amount of direct contact with your child, I hope you can understand that, given the seriousness of the current pandemic, Public Health England have advised that this is the safest way, at this moment in time, to deliver some form of 'face to face' education. A Code of Conduct for using Microsoft Teams has been put onto the Classcharts and school website with an acceptance form that the students should complete. What is really important is that we continue to work together in partnership to ensure that all Year 12 pupils receive as much support as we can possibly give them for the rest of the term.

I also need your support in emphasising to your daughter/son that once they enter the school gate they must strictly follow all the safety measures that we have put in place. Social distancing (minimum of 2 metres), washing hands regularly, moving around the building in an orderly manner and following the school rules first time every time, is absolutely necessary.

**Health and Safety** - Parents/carers should monitor their child's health and refrain from sending them to school if they or any member of the household is displaying symptoms.

**School uniform** - Pupils will be allowed to wear their own clothes enabling clothes to be washed at the end of each school session.

**Entering and Exit the building** – Pupils will enter and exit the building via the front entrance. Pupils will be asked to sanitise their hands on entering and exiting the building and to maintain social distancing measures.

**Catering** –There is no on-site catering provision. Please provide snacks/lunch and water for your child to consume during their breaks. Pupils should bring their own cutlery into school if required. There will be no leaving the building during the day.

No-one knows what will happen in September as the impact of the pandemic changes on a daily basis but I would hope that there will have been further loosening of restrictions and an increase in the amount of time all pupils spend in school. However, at the minute, the guidance from the Government is clear – ‘face to face’ contact with Year 10 and Year 12 only at least until the end of the summer term.

Can I also ask that you please encourage your child to complete work that has been sent home via Class Charts and to contact their teachers if any problems arise. The school has remained open for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers since 20<sup>th</sup> March and will continue to do so. Pupils and parents have the ability to contact any member of teaching staff through the class charts website or app.

I will continue to update you before the end of this term.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement and please do not forget to contact me at any time through email or the school office to express any concerns you have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs V A Pasco  
Assistant Headteacher in charge of 6<sup>th</sup> Form