



**St Cuthbert's
Catholic High School**
Live life in all its fullness

Berrys Lane
Sutton, St. Helens
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Email: hello@stcuthberts.com

Headteacher:
Mrs Catherine Twist B. Ed
Fax No: 01744 678127

17 August 2020

Dear students and parents/carers

I hope you are all well and enjoying the summer break.

I am writing to update you on the arrangements for September. The plans sent out before we finished for summer remain the same. Following the Government guidelines the year groups will be in separate areas of the school in 'bubbles' and staff will come to them. The very beginning of the school year will be slightly different in terms of timetable but this will be for a minimum period only to reconnect with all students before the 'normal' timetable will be followed.

Each year group will be sent a separate letter after this one with their details. However I wanted to outline some whole school issues that will need to be addressed before the start of term.

Firstly, the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff are paramount and over the summer a great deal of work has been done to ensure that we are all able to return to school in a calm and safe manner. This will involve cooperation from all parties.

Transport continues to be an area of concern and we are constantly in discussion with the Local Authority regarding any updates. Wherever possible students should walk, cycle or be driven to school. Good attendance and punctuality is always a vital part of education and September is no different. Punctuality is essential in the new term to avoid mixing 'bubbles'. Can I request that students arrive no earlier than 8.20am unless by prior arrangement and no later than 8.30am.

Uniform is to be worn to the highest standard as always. There are no changes to the uniform. Therefore black, polishable shoes are expected from the start. If outdoor coats are to be worn they must be black and be able to fit into the school bag which must be brought in everyday along with the appropriate equipment as no equipment will be lent out to students (due to Health and Safety).

Now is the appropriate time to ensure that false nails, eyelashes, coloured hair, extensions, piercings, jewellery etc. are sorted out before we return to school. I am sure you are aware that this is potentially an anxious time for students to return after such a period of time and therefore a prompt and efficient start is needed – not involving challenges about hair etc.

Please refer to the school website for the rules if you are unsure <https://stcuthberts.com/school-life/rules-and-expectations/uniform-and-equipment/> and please contact us if you have any questions.

As always I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Mobile phones as always are allowed in school but to be switched off at all times and placed in school bags – NOT pockets.

Chewing gum is definitely prohibited in school as is spitting and students will be expected to avoid general contact with each other.

The same high standards and expectations of all our young people remain the same. There are some





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additions, initially, that students will have to adhere to more so in the first few weeks. Namely, strict areas that students will be able to go into, one way systems and separate year groups for unstructured times. There will be clear expectations of social distancing, hand washing and sensible behaviour expected at all times.

Please note that there will be NO CASH at all in school and therefore can I please remind ALL parents to ensure that they have logged onto Parent Pay in advance of school starting to avoid any delays at break and lunch time. Regarding the catering arrangements, initially there will be a slightly reduced menu involving Grab and Go bags. This will be reviewed daily and changes made appropriately.

Year 7 and Year 11 are to return on **Monday 7th September at 8:30am** and **all other years on Tuesday 8th September at 8:30am.**

As I mentioned before each year group will be sent a letter separate to this one to give outlines of entrances, rooms, plans etc.

It only leaves me to wish you all a safe couple of weeks before we all return to school. It has been some time now and know that there will be anxious children and families but we will do everything in our control to make sure that the new school year begins and continues in a safe and productive manner.

God Bless.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Twist
Headteacher

This letter will be sent out to all parents/carers via the MyED school app and you will be asked to acknowledge receipt. A copy will also be placed on the school website for information.

