



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

Berrys Lane  
Sutton, St. Helens  
WA9 3HE

**Web:** [stcuthberts.com](http://stcuthberts.com)

**Tel:** 01744 678123

**Email:** [hello@stcuthberts.com](mailto:hello@stcuthberts.com)

**Headteacher:**

Mrs Catherine Twist B. Ed

**Fax No:** 01744 678127

16 July 2021

Dear parents/carers

As we move to the end of term, I want to take this opportunity to thank our St Cuthbert's family for their hard work, co-operation and support during this challenging school year. When we returned to school in September 2020 after lockdown 1, I don't think anyone really thought that we would still be in this position today. However, in true St Cuthbert's fashion, we have all worked together to make sure our young people have been supported and have had as many opportunities as possible to continue to learn and make progress.

Even in bubbles and testing and self-isolation, we have continued to remain open, safe and effective. This is due to the hard work of staff and students and a determination to make the best of the situation. When we finish for the end of the school year on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> we can look back on the year and celebrate our successes with pride.

**The arrangements for Thursday are normal lessons 1-4 and then lunch, afternoon registration and dismissal at 1.40pm.** *Unfortunately, Mersey Travel are no longer able to provide any school buses at that time of the day so we would therefore ask that you make arrangements for your child to be collected by you or a representative if they usually use any of the buses.*

We will continue to test in school next week and the mobile testing centre will be here again on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. I hope to be able to inform you of plans for the mobile testing centre to be on site during the summer holidays for you to access. I will let you know when this is confirmed. Can I please urge that you encourage the students to continue to test during the summer break and particularly before returning to school in September?

The lifting of restrictions on 19<sup>th</sup> July will not affect school running up to the end of term. We will remain as we are for the following week.

The information listed below outlines the plans for September but I must stress that if things change either Nationally or locally regarding infection rates etc. and plans need to change, I will ensure that you are informed as soon as possible.

#### **In September we have been advised that:**

- It will no longer be necessary to keep students in bubbles. We will, however, monitor this over summer. We will be able to have assemblies again and extra-curricular activities as well as other activities that have been sadly missed this year.
- Face coverings will not be compulsory either in classrooms or communal areas but if students want to continue to wear them on their return they can. This will be reviewed and if there were to be an increase in cases then the need for face coverings may need to be enforced again. Face coverings should still be worn on school transport.
- If there is a positive case in school we will not be required to send contacts home as we do now. NHS Test and trace will identify and contact close contacts. School may be asked by Test and trace to assist in some individual cases.

**From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they**





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**have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so**

- In September we will continue to take temperatures on entry and we will still insist on the use of hand sanitisers and wiping down of desks for the first few weeks at least and we will continue to maintain the appropriate and additional cleaning regimes.
- Testing remains vitally important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection in school and therefore, in September all students will receive 2 on-site lateral flow device tests across the first week back. They should then continue to test at home twice a week until the end of September when this will be reviewed.

**To facilitate this the school testing centre will be open on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 between 8.30am and 1:30pm for all students to attend should you wish them to.**

- Year 7 will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 8.30am
- Year 11 will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 9.30am
- Year 8, 9 and 10 will return on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 8.30am

A testing rota will be in place that week and then home tests will be distributed.

**COVID-19 SCHOOL TESTING PARENTAL CONSENT:** We will send out another letter via MyED next week asking for parental consent for testing in school in September – please make sure that you complete the form giving your consent. For new Year 7 students, the consent letter will be sent before the summer break via email.

Can you please ensure that all students start the new year with the correct uniform, and that they are ready to learn? Here's a link to our website: <https://www.stcuthberts.com/school-life/rules-and-expectations/uniform-and-equipment/>

We are keen to meet our new Year 7's but also to welcome back all our students ready for an exciting and rewarding new school year.

Until then, can I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe and peaceful summer and look forward to next year.

God bless.

Yours faithfully

C.A. Twist

Mrs C Twist  
Headteacher

