



St Michael's Catholic College

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www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Kathleen Faherty

7th January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Update from the Principal

Please find details below of the confirmed arrangements in place for students during the current lockdown. All of our staff are working very hard to ensure the provision we have in place for students is of the highest quality, supports parents/carers to follow a clear routine with their child, matches the current curriculum requirements for each year group and goes beyond the government requirements in relation to remote learning.

Remote Learning

Full remote learning is already underway for years 11 and 13 and will start for all other Year groups from Monday 11th January. Remote lessons begin for all students with compulsory live registration at 8:50am each day which students can access via their tutor group Google classroom. Registers will be taken by form tutors and non-attendance followed up in line with college absence procedures.

All subject teachers will set work as per the number of timetabled lessons students have each week and will follow the curriculum and scheme of work for this half term according to department curriculum maps. There will be a mixture of 'live' lessons and independent tasks set and the proportion is dependent on your child's key stage and the number of lessons they have in each subject, each week.

Key Stage 3

- Core subjects (English Maths, Science and RE): 2 'live' lessons using Google meet each week and independent tasks set for the other 2 lessons.
- Ebacc subjects (MFL, Geography, History): 1 'live' lesson using Google meet each week and 1 independent task set.
- Foundation subjects (Art, Classics, Drama, DT, Music, PE) 1 live lesson per fortnight using Google meet and 1 independent task per fortnight.
- Feedback takes place for Core and Ebacc subjects weekly and for Foundation subjects fortnightly and low stakes testing takes place fortnightly to ensure students have engaged with learning and to address any gaps.

Key Stage 4 and 5

- A minimum of 50% of lessons for each subject during the week will be 'live' using Google meet, independent tasks will be set when live lessons are not taking place.
- Feedback and low stakes testing takes place for each subject weekly to ensure that students have engaged with the learning and to address gaps.

Students are expected to demonstrate high levels of engagement and effort with remote learning and meet college behaviour expectations when participating in live registration and lessons. Teachers will report any concerns via mentions on sims, weekly checks will be carried out by Heads of Department and Leaders of Learning and parents will be contacted if their child is not meeting expectations. More details about remote learning expectations are explained in a video made by the college which can be

accessed here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EXUWnKSSppfBMOMXZLufWWWuzIFECg7i/view?usp=sharing>

I would strongly recommend you watch this video with your child to ensure a shared understanding of college expectations. If you require support with devices, internet access, data etc. we will do all we can to ensure your child is able to fully access remote learning. Please contact your child's Leader of Learning in the first instance to make them aware of any support you need. We will be holding online workshops later this month for parents on supporting your child with remote learning and how to ensure your child stays safe online. More details including how to sign up will be sent out to parents as soon as the final arrangements are confirmed.

Catholicity and Wellbeing

During morning live registration students will participate in collective worship and during the term videos of assemblies led by college staff linked to the liturgical year, Salesian values, important religious, historical and cultural events, student voice and wellbeing will take place in line with our usual assembly schedule. Virtual House competitions will run throughout the term and students will be given support with their wellbeing through CPHSE activities and a monthly wellbeing newsletter with advice and recommendations about how to ensure good mental health and wellbeing and details about online and local resources available. The Head of Chaplaincy Ms Hagan will also provide weekly prayers and spiritual support to students via tutor group Google classrooms.

Free School Meals and Breakfast Boxes

We will continue to support families in receipt of free school meals by providing supermarket vouchers equivalent to the weekly free school meal allowance during lockdown. If you don't currently receive free school meals but think you might be eligible please contact Mrs Shaw via contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk who can support you with the application process. We will also be providing breakfast boxes once again for families in receipt of free school meals, please respond to the recent email sent out by Mr Kelly if wish to take up this offer. Breakfast boxes contain a fortnight's worth of groceries to provide a nutritious breakfast for each child in a family.

If parents/carers or students have any queries or concerns please contact your child's Leader of Learning in the first instance. We will do everything we can to support students, parents and carers in every way possible this academic year. We know how challenging the current situation is for students and families, which is why it is all the more important that students get into a routine and good habits as soon as possible whilst they are learning from home. I must also stress that given the high infection rates of Covid-19 in Southwark it is vital that we all play our part by staying at home and by following the government guidelines. Getting the infection rate down and participation in the vaccination programme will help schools return to face to face teaching again as soon as possible.

Please do keep those members of our community who are suffering due to the pandemic in your prayers at this time, in particular those who are unwell or recently bereaved. Thank you for your ongoing support at this time, it is essential that we continue to work in partnership for the benefit of our students and our community.

Yours faithfully

Ms F. Corcoran

Principal





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