



8 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of this school year, the usual practice would be to highlight all the wonderful things that have happened this year. It would be easy to dismiss or write the year off but actually there were some things that have lifted our spirits and made the year so much more bearable!

We are so proud of all of our students but I would like to give a special shout out to our Year 7's. This amazing group of young people are a delight to be around and despite their first year being severely disrupted, they have remained positive and genuinely happy all the time. We are looking forward to giving them and all our students more opportunities and experiences next academic year.

As we begin to plan for a better year, I would like to draw you attention to the following:

### **New School Year**

The Government have indicated that schools will be expected to conduct Lateral Flow Tests at the start of term. Recent updates with regards to bubbles, masks and close contacts can be found here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/07/06/parents-pupils-teachers-and-students-find-out-what-step-4-of-the-covid-roadmap-means-for-you/>. We are pleased that should someone test positive we will no longer have to send whole bubbles home. Although masks will no longer be required in school, we respect student's right to choose to wear a mask if it makes them feel comfortable.

As a consequence of having to do one Lateral Flow Test with students before they can go into classes, the testing and return to school schedule is as follows:

### **Testing**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August – New Year 7 and Sixth Form

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August – Years 8 & 9

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August - Years 10 & 11

We will operate the same booking system as before for the testing and we will share this link with you on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July when it will go live. You will be requested to only book for the day allocated to your child's year group. Siblings may come together on one of the year group days.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> test for each student will take place once they have returned to school. Thereafter students will be expected to test twice weekly at home using the tests we provide. Results should be reported to NHS Track & Trace.

### **Returning to School**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Year 7 & 12 ONLY all day

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August - all other year groups return and the school photographer will be in

### **School Policies**

**Mobile Phones** – Mobile phones are not permitted in school for Years 7-11. Phones can be handed into the school office for safekeeping and collected at the end of the day. They are not to be seen or used on the school site. Any phone seen during this time will be confiscated and parents will be asked to collect it. An afterschool detention will be set for anyone who has their phone confiscated. Should a student have their phone out and refuse to hand it over when asked, this will result in a Fixed Term exclusion. A student who has their phone confiscated more than once in a term will also be sanctioned. Students should never use their phones to contact their parents during the school day, if we find this has happened the procedures above will apply.

## Uniform

All uniform must be worn correctly with care and pride at all times including travel to and from home.

\*Black school blazer with school badge

White shirt buttoned fully to the neck with a school tie

Black school uniform trousers **OR** \* St Paul's black school skirt (knee length)

NO SKINNY TROUSERS, JEANS OR LEGGINGS.

Optional plain black v-necked jumper or cardigan. Not to be worn in place of blazer

Black or white socks, black or skin tights

Shoes should be all black without logos. NO BOOTS.

## PE Kit

- Black leggings (Girls only)

- \* Black Fleece (Girls)

- \* PE Fitness Top (All)

- \* Multi Sports Top (Boys)

- Black shorts (All)

- Trainers

- Football boots (Boys and Girls)

- Shin Pads (Boys and Girls)

- Gum Shield

- Water bottle

All uniform with a \* can only be purchased from Schoolwear Solutions, 64 London Road, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5DH - Telephone 216 0665

Please make an appointment via their website - [www.schoolwearsolutions.com](http://www.schoolwearsolutions.com)

## Detentions

These are not negotiable and only in **exceptional** circumstances should parents contact us to re-arrange a detention. Football/sports fixtures are not exceptional circumstances.

Please click [here](#) for our current behaviour policy.

## School Priorities

Our big school priorities next year will be reading and literacy. Form time in the morning has been extended by 10 minutes to allow for reading and literacy activities to take place. Please ensure your child has a reading book with them at all times. More information and updates about this through the year.

We have been taking some student and staff voice on homework this year. Mindful of our students wellbeing along with an awareness of how much students have to learn, our approach to homework next year will be that homework will only be set if it is to Review, Revise or consolidate; in other words, homework will not be used for "new" learning. We hope by using homework for these reasons only, it will be of benefit to our students when it comes to tests, assessment and exams.

We will also be delivering our new PHSE/RSE curriculum which runs through all year group and tackles lots of key areas like mental health, relationships, racism and appropriate behaviour. The full map can be found on our website - <https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/curriculum/responsible-adulthood-programme/>

Our spiritual life focus will be on getting full use of our Chapel and students leaderships across the school.

## Bikes

Students are encouraged to cycle to school. There is a bike shed at school but pupils should bring in a secure lock for their bike. Students cycling to school **must** wear a cycle helmet. All cyclists must dismount and wheel their bicycles on site. E-scooters are not permitted.

### **Dining in School**

We have a re-vamped school menu for next term. We took a number of pieces of Student Voice and it was clear that students wanted healthier food choices and we hope the new menu reflects this. We would like the majority of our students to eat hot meals at lunchtime so can I ask you to look at the menu with your child and encourage them to eat from Lydia's Restaurant at lunchtime. We are delighted to be able to offer lots of choice with regard to meat and vegetarian options. The menus will change daily and we will review the new dining arrangements and menus at October half term.

Students will be served hot food from 'Lydia's' restaurant and cold food and snacks from 'The Café'. We are moving to 2 lunchtimes next year after the success of split lunches this year. Please click [here](#) for the new menu and prices.

Please note we will only be serving food at breakfast and lunch from the start of the new school year. There will be no food or snacks served at break time.

We will continue to use ParentPay so please ensure that your child's account stays topped up. The machines will not be available in school for students to top up their accounts.

### **Free School Meals**

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals please click on the link below:

[leicester.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://leicester.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals).

### **Exam Results – Year 11 & 13**

Examination results will be available for Go4Schools on 10<sup>th</sup> August for A level students and 12<sup>th</sup> August for GCSE students. Sixth form Interviews will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> August.

### **School Transport**

Auden Clark remain our school transport provider. Please ensure that you respond to their email asking you to pay £50 deposit to book your child a seat. More information will follow with regards to payments for the year. Further details can be found by clicking the following link: [ausdenclark.co.uk/school-travel/st-pauls-catholic-school](http://ausdenclark.co.uk/school-travel/st-pauls-catholic-school).

Seats sold out on some routes last year so I would encourage you to book as soon as possible.

### **Staff Changes**

As always, the end of school year means we lose and gain staff.

We say goodbye to:

Miss Baker who is going to do her Teacher Training  
Miss McFerran who is spending more time with her baby  
Mr Kelly who is off to Teach in Madrid!  
Miss Ruth Heatley who has secured another teaching role  
Kareema Adam who has secured a full time role at another school  
Mrs Crabb who is retiring as a Catering Assistant

As staff leave, others join and we are pleased to welcome the following to the St Paul's family:

Ms Betts – Teacher of D&T  
Miss Raji – Teaching Assistant  
Miss Harris – L2 Teaching Assistant  
Ms Layshley – L2 Teaching Assistant  
Mrs Modhvadia – Catering Assistant

We have a few internal staffing changes:

Mr Morbey will be looking after Year 9 while Mrs Chavda is on maternity leave  
Mr Chapman is the new Head of Year 8 supported by Miss McManus  
Mrs Bhana is the temporary Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Ms Cunningham will be assisting Mrs Chapman with Year 7  
Miss Patrick is the Assistant Faculty Leader Science

We wish all the very best to Mrs Chavda & Mrs Upadhyia who are both expecting babies in the Summer and Miss Gohil who is getting married in August and will be known as Mrs Gohil-Daine.  
And we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Hallam into the Geography department.

### **Key Dates up until Half term**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September -Year 7 Welcome and Information Evening 5pm – 6pm

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Year 12 Information Evening 5pm – 6pm/Year 13 Information Evening 6pm – 7pm

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September - Year 11 Information Evening 5pm – 6pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Year 10 Information Evening 5pm – 6pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September – Year 8 Information Evening 5pm – 6pm

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Year 9 Information Evening 5pm – 6pm

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Year 6 Open Evening 4.30pm – 7pm

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September – MacMillan Coffee Morning

It is our hope that all these evenings will be face to face but as always we will be guided by Government and Public Health advice.

### **And finally**

All of our students have played a key role in helping make St Paul's a lovely place to work and study. I would also like to thank all of our staff and all of you at home for supporting us here in what has been a challenging year.

Best wishes



Mrs S Conaghan  
Principal

### Prayer for the End of the School Year



At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school,  
our classrooms, and in our homes;

For the talents and gifts that have been shared, and the challenges  
that have been faced;

For the burdens that have been lifted, and the hurts that have been  
healed;

For the respect and care that has been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun, and for those  
that have grown;

For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles;

For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days, and for the  
love that has kept us going.

We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord  
to bless our families as we begin our time apart from each other.

May our time shared together leave us with memories to cherish.

Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed  
to continue our journey together.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.