



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

10th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another school year, I want to thank you all. So much of what we do and want to achieve as a school relies on you as parents/carers. Ensuring that your child attends school regularly, follows the rules and knows how to be respectful and work hard are all important messages and allows them to have a positive experience in school. The relationship between school and home must be strong for your child to know we are united in our expectations.

So many wonderful things have happened this year from our Trust public speaking competition, our Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, overseas trips, the Menphys concert, Carnegie event, sports events, awards evenings, year 11 and 13 Masses, proms, Year 7, 8 and 9 retreats and so much more, it has been a year with so much to be pleased and thankful for. My thanks to all the staff who have organised, run and been involved in celebration and enrichment events for our students over the course of the year, to our support staff teams who assist us all so well and to all of you as parents for your support.

We were so pleased to see all our new incoming Year 7 at their induction day last week, they were a joy to host. We know both the children and their parents will be great additions to our St Paul's family. Our Year 6 Open Evening is on Thursday 10th October 4.30-7pm and we look forward to welcoming and seeing students and their families then. Sixth form open evening is 7th November 4.30-7pm.

As we now think ahead to next year, there are a few things to make you aware of:

Attendance and National changes to dealing with unauthorised pupil absence from school

It is important that your child attends school every day. Should your child have to have time off you must let us know by calling the school before 9am and leaving a message on the student absence line. You must do this on each day of the absence. With regards to holidays, I do not authorise holidays during term time. Please do not be upset if you are told this and you are issued with a fixed term penalty notice. I fully understand the cost of holidays differ dramatically when they are taken out of school holiday time, but children are legally required to be in school and therefore I cannot authorise the leave request the Trust Attendance Policy is available on our website and can be viewed here [Attendance - St Paul's Catholic School \(st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk\)](https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk)

The national changes to dealing with unauthorised pupil absence from school, was emailed to all parents on Monday 8th July; the issuing of Penalty Notices are not my decision, the school or the Trust, they are nationally regulated by the government.

Behaviour

The vast majority of our students behave really well but when things do go wrong our sanctions are very clear. We have produced a shortened parent version of our behaviour policy. I hope you find this a useful document in helping you understand our sanctions and so on.

<https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/parents-guide-to-behaviour/>

We do expect parents to support us in ensuring students attend detentions. You can help by making sure you have the Arbor app and checking your emails regularly. We will alert you to a detention through these means as well as sending you an Arbor text message; those students for whom we have a mobile number for, will also receive a text message



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Data collection sheets

If you haven't yet returned your 2024-25 data collection sheet, please do so by Friday (a copy is attached). The form can be completed electronically and once completed can be emailed to the school office - office@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk. **If there are no changes to your details you do not need to complete one.** Having up to date mobile numbers and email addresses is critical for us.

Buses

Thanks to all those that have already signed up with Confidence or the school minibus. You can still book a seat on the Confidence Buses here: <https://www.confidencebus.co.uk/school-bus-routes/> or if you want one of the few remaining seats left on the school minibus for Oadby/South Leicestershire villages, please contact Mr. Dan Weston – dweston@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk

The route for the school minibus is priced the same as the Confidence bus annual pass at £685 and the route is as follows:

- Fleckney Co-op LE8 8AJ - 7.30am
- Kibworth The Square LE8 0HW - 7.40am
- Glen Rise- Foxpond Lane LE2 4RG - 7.50am
- Sainsbury's Glen Road, Oadby LE2 4PE 8.00am
- Schoolwear Solutions London Road, Oadby LE2 5DH 8.05am

Drop offs are all at the same locations listed as above but works in reverse and like Confidence, departs St. Paul's at 3:15pm

Evacuation and Invacuation

We would have an Invacuation should there be a real or perceived danger on the school grounds. This would mean having to "lock down" the whole school. We do have school procedures for this which says parents will get a text alert saying we have a lockdown and ask that you **do not** come to the school. We would then let you know once we are out of the lockdown situation. We also ask that you do not advertise the lockdown on social media or publicly criticise us for having a lockdown. Everything we would do would be for the safety of students and staff. At some point during the next academic year, we will have an Invacuation drill; we will tell you in the text, that it is a drill.

Uniform

How students wear their uniform reflects their attitude to school and our rules. I expect uniform to be worn properly and this means:

1. Shirts tucked in
2. Blazers and/or a badged jumper and ties to be worn at all times
3. Tartan school skirts knee length or longer and not rolled up
4. School trousers to be tailored and straight leg
5. No facial piercings other than for religious or cultural reasons; there should be one piercing per ear
6. No excessive make up or false eyelashes
7. No long coloured false nails or polish. Short French manicure is acceptable
8. Footwear should be all black with no visible logos and no boots
9. No logo ankle socks i.e. Nike



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

For those girls who choose to wear trousers instead of the skirt, please be aware that leggings, black jeans/jeggings, skinny, tapered or flared trousers are not allowed. For guidance, please click on the links in the attached document to view acceptable trousers.

The rule on jumpers and blazers is that students must either wear the v neck badged jumper or the blazer. They can of course be worn together. Students are not permitted to wear a jumper without the badge. The school badge is on order and once these arrive in school, we will let you know. Until then blazers should be worn.

Our approach to non-compliance with regards to uniform will be to inform you, issue detentions and then persistent non-compliance will result in isolation and in extreme situations, suspension. Parents can use their Pupil Premium allowance to help pay for uniform where appropriate. Our preloved shop has various boys and girls blazers, shirts, PE kit and ties. Do call the school and Mrs. Patel can advise on the current stock.

This Friday is non-uniform day, if you have items of uniform you no longer need, please do drop it into us; many families have benefited greatly from donations already made. We will buy back school skirts (£10) and badged jumpers (£5), both should be in good condition in order to re-sell them in our shop.

Parents Evening 2024-2025

Years 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 will be in person in school and Years 8 and 10 will be virtual. All timings are 3:40–6:40pm

School Priorities 2024–2025

These include building links with parishes, to continue to improve the quality of teaching and learning for all students thus affecting outcomes for all, to build on the work already done on behaviour in order to strengthen behaviour and culture across the school aspiring to be outstanding in this area, and to further strengthen our enrichment offer across the school.

So much work has already gone on with these priorities and next year will be an opportunity to build on that work. From August, Sixth Form will have an hour on a Tuesday afternoon to engage on all kinds of enrichment including volunteering in our feeder primaries and in care homes and engaging in tutoring and mentoring here at school. If any parent can offer an enrichment activity on a Tuesday afternoon to our Year 12 and 13 students, please drop Mrs Bhana an email fbhana@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk

Parent Governor

We welcome Samuel Komakech as our new school parent governor. Please see his message to you all below:

'I feel honoured that my fellow parents have put their trust in me to represent them on the Board; and on their behalf, I shall tirelessly strive to do my best to contribute to St Paul's Governing Body's activities, and to the success of St Paul's. I look forward to contribute to the enhancement of a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and moral integrity at St Paul's; as we all strive to give our young people an inclusive education that respects and celebrates diverse backgrounds.'



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Parent Forum and PTA

I would like to establish a PTA for fundraising and recruit new parents to the parent forum. The parent forum is a representative group of parents that I can seek feedback from and consult with. Meetings are termly. Any new Year 7 parents wishing to join should email Mrs Moss – CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk

School budgets no longer support school projects, and my hope is that with some great fundraising we can do so much more in school for the students and our buildings. If you are experience or just keen to be part of our new PTA please drop Mrs Moss an email and I'll be in touch. My first fundraiser of 2024 will be a car boot on the school field in September. More details when we get back to school in August.

Results Day Arrangements

The national results days are:

- **15th August for all A Level, AS and other Level 3 courses including BTEC**
- **22nd August for all GCSEs and other Level 2 courses including BTEC**

Students have two options on the morning of the national results days.

Option 1: Students can collect their results from St. Paul's from 8 -10am in the morning of results day.

Option 2: Examination results will be on G4S by 10am on the morning of results day.

Enrolment for Sixth Form

Students should come in to collect results so that they are able to enrol and confirm their subjects. Enrolment will be available all day on the 22nd and until 1pm on the 23rd. Staff will be on hand for careers appointments and to support with results.

Appeals The Joint Council for Qualifications has now published information for all candidates on the appeals process for 2024. In the first stage of appeals, JCQ has stated that all students must appeal to their centre (school) **not to the exam board**. Appeals paperwork will be available via our school website prior to the release of outcome grades to students, or alternatively you can also access the full guidance directly from JCQ: [Appeals - JCQ Joint Council for Qualifications](#) I will also publish information for any students who wish to appeal BTEC outcomes.

Staffing

A number of members of staff leave/retire at the end of this year and at our School Mass last week, we celebrated and gave thanks to all of them for their hard work and commitment over the years.

- Mr Miskelly
- Mrs Amanji
- Mrs Morjaria
- Mr Ouedraogo - 32 years service
- Miss White
- Mrs McMahon
- Mr McMahon
- Mrs Gibbs
- Mrs Etim-Ima
- Miss Armstrong - 24 years service

We wish all the very best in their new roles/retirements.



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We welcome the following staff to St Paul's in August:

- Mrs Ratanji – English Teacher
- Ms Simpson – English Teacher (maternity cover)
- Mrs Begum – English Teacher
- Mrs Hurman – Science Teacher (maternity cover)
- Mrs del Carmen Rivera Galicia – Spanish Teacher
- Mrs Kaur – Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Daya – Teaching Assistant

Congratulations to them all and we wish them well in their new roles.

We congratulate Ms Bell on the birth of her son and Ms O'Gorman on the birth of her daughter. Mrs Yassin and Miss Edwards leave us to go on maternity leave. We welcome back from maternity leave Miss Rodwell and Mrs Gohil-Daine. We also wish Miss Warrilow all the best as she gets married over the summer!

Parent handbook

Parents can read the parent handbook by clicking here [St Paul's Parent Handbook 24-25 \(st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk\)](https://st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk)

This contains all the information you need to know about the school. Please note some changes to our pastoral teams. Miss Grudging's will take over as Head of Year 11 assisted by Miss Barber. Miss Wood becomes Head of Year 8 (current Year 7) assisted by Ms Mc Manus. The handbook has the most up to date staffing for 2024-25.

School Website and Social Media

Please view/access the school website and social media as we regularly post news items/updates [News - St Paul's Catholic School \(st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk\)](https://st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk)

Positive Rewards and Recognition

We would like to express our thanks to the following for their very kind donations in support of awarding our students for Positive Rewards and Recognition:

Phoenix Cinema 2 complimentary tickets

John Lewis - stationery

Asda Oadby - stationery

Tesco Hamilton - stationery

Mrs Smith - stationery

Mrs O'Riley for vouchers - Roblox and mixed stores (£125), mixed toys prizes (collection of 10 different prizes)

Mrs. Poceschi – highlighter packs

£500 from the school for prizes

The various vouchers and gifts have been awarded to students this morning.

If you have any new items or vouchers you would like to donate as prizes, please drop them into the school office or email Mrs Witchard on witchard@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk . My thanks to Mrs Witchard and Mrs O' Reilly for co-ordinating our praise and reward scheme.



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Library

We have spent a significant amount of money on new books this year ensuring children have the best possible choices. If books are returned damaged or lost, we would ask for a replacement book to be brought in to school.

Water Safety Video

Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service have produced a 20 minute Water Safety video in light of the summer approaching and young people swimming in open water

We encourage you to watch the video with your child to educate them on the hazards of water and what to do in an emergency and to stay safe.

https://www.canva.com/design/DAF8yBE1N70/aXdZuRI3MiVHChoaDxeWVw/view?utm_content=DAF8yBE1N70&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=editor

Trust Family Information Sheet

Please find attached a family information sheet detailing discounted meals, free activities for SEND children and a holiday reading photo competition over the summer holiday period.

Term Dates

Dates for the next 3 years can be found on our website under the 'Parent' tab, Term Dates/School Day <https://www.st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk/parents/term-dates-3/>. Please note the CMAT Staff inset day for 2024-25 on 29th November, students across the Trust are not in school that day.

Safeguarding over the Summer holidays

If you are concerned about the safety or well-being of a child during the school holidays, please contact children's social care: Duty and Advice; 0116 454 1004. If you think a child is in immediate danger call the police on 999 or call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 straight away.

New School Year

The new school year starts for Years 7 and 12 on Thursday 29th August; for everyone else it is Friday 30th August. Whilst we get all the thumbprints taken Year 7 and new Year 12, these students should bring packed lunches on Thursday. Those in receipt of Pupil Premium will be able to collect a lunch bag from the dining room at lunchtime. Please ensure your child's ParentPay lunch account has enough money for them to buy lunch from Friday.

Dates for your diary

Friday 12th July – School closes at 12.30pm for Summer. Non-Uniform Day
Thursday 15th August for all A Level, AS and other Level 3 courses including BTEC
Thursday 22nd August for all GCSEs and other Level 2 courses including BTEC
Thursday 29th August - school opens for Year 7 & year 12 – school photographs
Friday 30th August - school opens for all other year groups
Monday 2nd September – school photographs all other year groups
Tuesday 17th September - Year 7 STP Think Day – Rosmini Centre
Wednesday 18th September - Year 7 AUL Think Day



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Friday 27th September – Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thursday 10th October – Year 6 Open evening 4.30pm – 7pm

Wednesday 2nd October – Year 7 Tutor Meetings on-line

Friday 18th October – School closes for half term

From myself and all the staff, we wish you a lovely restful Summer.

Mrs S Conaghan
Principal