



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

9 July 2026

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 starting with our Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI) Inspection; 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 125 Year 9 and 10 students, completing their Sport Leaders qualification. This year, we are thrilled that 55 Bronze, 40 Silver and 7 Gold students qualified in the DofE award **and** we remain in the Leicester City Top top-rated secondary schools in Leicester, ranked by Ofsted ratings, GCSE results, attendance and progress. It truly 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.

As always, it was delightful to see all our new incoming Year 7 at their induction day last week; their enthusiasm and excitement in being here, was a joy to see. We know both the children and their parents will be great additions to our St Paul's family. Our Year 6 Open Evening, for 27-28, is on Thursday 17th September 4.30-7pm and we look forward to welcoming and seeing students and their families then. Sixth form open evening is Thursday 5th November 4:30-6:30pm

This Friday is non-uniform day and we close at 12:30pm. Buses will be on site for a 12:30pm departure in line with the school closing early. Children in receipt of FSM, can collect a lunch bag at break. Please ensure that your child has a safe method of travel home, as our premises team will be closing the school shortly after 12:30pm

Nb. Please be aware that the Uppingham Road/Spencefield Lane junction, is going to be closed on 9th and 10th July from 9am to 3pm, which will obviously cause traffic delays.

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

Behaviour

The vast majority of our students behave really well but when things do go wrong, our sanctions are very clear.

As already shared with you, the changes to Mobile phone/devices, start on the first day of the new school year. Our current expectation is that phones are switched off and out of sight throughout the school day. The overwhelming majority of students follow this expectation extremely well, and incidents of phones being confiscated are relatively uncommon. We had also allowed phones to be used at the start of the day before the bell goes for form time and at 3.10pm following dismissal. Recent government



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guidance has reinforced the rules that schools should take effective action to prevent the use of mobile phones/devices, entirely on the school site recognising the positive impact this can have on learning, behaviour and wellbeing.

As a reminder from August, this means at St Paul's:

- Phones/listening devices/watches which can send/receive messages or calls are all banned and must not be seen or used from the moment students enter through the grey gates until, the moment they exit them again at the end of the day
- Any devices seen will be confiscated and kept overnight, parents must collect them; they will not be given back to students
- Students will be given a C4 Isolation if their item is confiscated
- Refusal to hand over an item will result in a suspension
- Those with a medical pass, can use their phones to check readings but must then put them away again immediately
- If a confiscated phone has a bus pass/bank card on it, we will call parents to ask how the student is getting home
- Sixth form can use devices in the sixth form areas only

Today's young people live in a world of constant digital interruption. Research suggests that the average teenager receives well over 200 notifications every day, many of them during school hours. Every vibration, alert or expectation of a message competes for attention. Studies have shown that even the presence of a smartphone can reduce concentration, making it harder to think deeply, retain information and remain fully engaged. By removing this constant distraction during the school day, we are giving students the opportunity to be fully present in lessons, conversations and school life. We cannot control the digital world beyond our gates, but during the school day we can.

Full details can be found in or behaviour policy [St Pauls Behaviour Policy master-Updated_june-2026-3.pdf](#)

Student up to date information

If your home address, email or mobile numbers have changed, then please do advise us, you can do so by emailing office@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk or if you wish, you can update this information on the Arbor system. Having up to date mobile numbers and email addresses is critical for us, as this is how we contact you in the event of an emergency.

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/>. If you choose to enter into a contract with the Confidence Bus company, the agreement is with parent and the company (not the school). If you want one of the few remaining seats left on the school minibus for Oadby/South Leicestershire villages, please contact Mr. Dan Weston via email dweston@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk



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The route for the school minibus is priced the same as the Confidence bus annual pass at £765 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
- Stoughton Grange – Cow & Plough Car Park - 8:10am
- St. Paul's arrival - 8:25am

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

Driving on site

In my recent newsletter, I shared that a new barrier for both entrance and exit, will be fitted; the construction work which will include a central reservation to support traffic management and an intercom system, will be completed over the summer. The rules for parents coming on site, remain the same in that we ask only those parents who have been issued with a permit, to enter the driveway. With a shared driveway, 4 school buses and a school minibus, we must all work together to ensure the safety of our students, staff and parents. A very small number of parents when asked to move their cars, have been rude and verbally abusive to staff, which is not acceptable. Parents are asked to park on Spencefield Lane, or the surrounding area for your child to then walk the short distance to the school entrance. Please note that **permits are only issued after reviewing acceptable medical evidence for your child**. Please email my PA Mrs Moss at CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk if you feel your child meets the criteria.

Invacuation & Lockdown

There are planned full Invacuation and Lockdown drills in the Advent term. Just to remind you that 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 is for the safety of students and staff. We will conduct a mock Invacuation in the first half term and I will share the date and details with you, nearer the time.

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
6. No excessive make up or false eyelashes



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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

We have reached out again this year, to our uniform provider regarding branded school shorts. We realise that the weather is getting warmer and we are often asked, if shorts can be worn. The new Government rules from September is that no school can have more than three branded items of uniform (ties are excluded). We have three branded items: blazer/jumper, skirt and PE top. The idea is to keep costs down for parents. Unfortunately, the quotes for personalised St. Paul's shorts is too high but I am happy to look again and make them optional as we do the skirt. In the meantime, exceptions and allowances, as we have done recently, are made in the event of extreme hot weather and you will always be notified of this via email/Arbor/SatchelOne. I will be in touch once we have some sample shorts and prices.

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 further guidance, please access the parent handbook on our school website [St Paul's Parent Handbook 26-27](#)

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. You can purchase school badges from Arbor and these can be collected from the school office; these can be sewn onto a plain black v neck jumper. Please place on the left hand side.

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 pop-up uniform shop on Saturday 4th July, was a huge success. My thanks to all parents who kindly donated uniform; the success of our pre-loved shop, is as a result of your ongoing generosity which in turn, benefits more and more families and students throughout the year. If you ever want to check pre-loved stock, please call the school office and a staff member will be happy to advise on current stock items. Donations for our pre-loved shop are still most welcome, especially skirts and badged jumpers. You can drop into reception or give to your child to bring into school. Thank you.

Parents Evening 2026-2027

All parent evening for Years 7 – 13 will be in person in the new school year, with a 3:40pm start. Letters will be sent out to parents nearer the time, with guidance on how to book appointments.

School Priorities 2026-2027

The main school priorities include:

- ☐ That safeguarding remains an **open culture** where all staff are confident with the methods of reporting procedures.
- ☐ **Ensure the curriculum is designed and adapted** to meet the needs of all particularly those with SEND needs and those who are identified as Pupil premium.



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- ☐ To ensure that all **inclusive practices** across the school are secure to ensure that all pupils feel welcomed, valued and a **sense of belonging** in their school community
- ☐ **Adaptive teaching** across all key stages meeting the need of all students
- ☐ Ensure school **attendance sits at lease 95%**
- ☐ To have a **wide and varied enrichment offer**
- ☐ Continue to foster **good study habits** at Sixth Form through clearly articulated expectations by Sixth form staff and subject teachers

Buildings

We are moving our current 'Hub' and creating a beautiful new Inclusion Base beside the school chapel. The Inclusion base at the heart of the school and close to the chapel, is a visible reminder of how important inclusion is at St Paul's. We want every child to feel like they belong, are cared for and that they are supported. In addition, being so close to reception means our parents do not have so far to walk when visiting Miss Boyle, or a member of the Inclusion team.

Governors Voice

As we reach the end of the Pentecost term, it is an opportunity to look back and give thanks for the many successes across the school year. These include the obvious milestones like exam results and the positive outcome from our Catholic Schools Inspection, but also the tapestry of religious, academic, sporting, musical, theatrical, and other enrichment activities that make up life at St Paul's. Throughout the year, governors have continued to visit the school, meet with leaders and staff, and review progress against key priorities, enabling us to support and challenge the school in its pursuit of excellence. It was a particular pleasure for some of us to join with the school community for the annual Feast Day Mass last week; this is always a special occasion, including the commissioning of the new Senior Student Leadership Team and an opportunity to say farewell and thank you to departing staff. We are expecting our Ofsted inspection in the next academic year and we trust this will be an opportunity for the school's tireless work in developing our young people, to be recognised. Ahead of that, we hope everyone has a good summer holiday. For those leaving St Paul's this summer - students and staff - very best wishes for your future.

Duncan Macdonald – Chair of Governors

Parent Forum and PTA

I would still really 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, with meetings happening termly. School budgets have for a long time now, not supported 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 experienced in fundraising or just keen to be part of our new PTA, please drop Mrs Moss an email and we'll be in touch. CMoss@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk

As a result of all our fundraising efforts for our school project this year, in support of The Good Shepherd School in Burkina Fasa, we have raised a total of £1,167 Thank you to all of you who contributed



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financially. This will make such a difference for the children who attend The Good Shepherd school

Results Day Arrangements

The national results days are:

- **13th August for all A Level, AS and other Level 3 courses including BTEC**
- **20th 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 8am in the morning of results day.

Option 2: Examination results will be on Arbor 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 8:30am-2pm on Thursday 20th and until 1pm on Friday 21st August. Staff will be on hand for careers appointments and to support with results. The very best of luck to all students awaiting results.

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.

We wish them all the very best in their new roles.

- Mrs Jessa Teacher of Maths
- Mrs D'Souza Teacher of Maths
- Mrs Chan TA
- Mrs Henshaw Pastoral Support Manager
- Miss Campbell Science Technician
- Miss Chlomisilou School Counsellor
- Mrs Hamilton Cover Supervisor
- Mr Flowers Lead exams invigilator
- Mrs Russell Deputy lead invigilator
- Mr Roger Starling HLTA

We welcome the following new/returning/current staff to St Paul's in August/advent term:

- Mrs Gocken Teacher of Maths
- Ms Nathalia Teacher of Geography & History
- Ms Hughes Teacher of Science
- Mr Lisouf Teacher of Maths
- Mrs Gibson HLTA



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- Mr Schager Science Technician
- Miss Nolan Head of Year 7
- Ms McManus Inclusion Manager
- Miss Cunningham Head of Year 8
- Mrs Rossa Assistant Head of English
- Mrs Upadhy Head of English returns from MAT leave
- Mrs Gohil Daine returns from MAT leave

Congratulations to them all and we wish them well in their new roles or returning roles. We wish Ms Bell all the best as she leaves on maternity. We would also like to wish Miss Rodwell good luck and lots of happiness, on her wedding day as she becomes Mrs Marlow this summer!

St. Paul's Golden Jubilee – June 2027

Keep the date!

We plan to celebrate the 50th anniversary on Saturday 26th June.

We will continue to promote this milestone on social media and with staff and parents in termly newsletters. Thank you to those of you who have kindly sent in items of memorabilia for our exhibition, St. Paul's through the decades. Please continue to send in photos of past staff and students, year books and various items of memorabilia to Mrs. Moss. We promise to take very good care of everything.

Parent handbook

Parents can read the parent handbook by clicking here [St Paul's Parent Handbook 26-27](#)

This contains all the information you need to know about the school. Please note some changes to our pastoral teams. The handbook has the most up to date staffing for 2026-27.

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 \(st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk\)](#)



I have been asked to share the following notice and attached letter on behalf Leicester Community Safety Partnership:

Important Information for Parents and Carers

As the school term comes to an end, we want to make sure our students stay safe. Leicester City Council and Leicestershire Police have noticed an increase in risky behaviour, especially on the last day of term. To help prevent this, they are asking families to talk about the risks of antisocial behaviour and how to stay safe. Please read the attached letter, which has important advice on how to keep your children safe during this time. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about making positive choices and



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taking part in safe activities outside of school. Thank you for your support in keeping our young people safe.

Mrs Nicola Odom
Head of Safer Communities
Leicester City Council

Ryan Ludlam
NPA Commander
Leicestershire Police

Term Dates

Dates 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 2026-27 is on Friday 20th November, students across the Trust are not in school that day.

New School Year

The new school year starts for Years 7 and 12 on Wednesday 26th August; for everyone else it is Thursday 27th August. Whilst we get all the thumbprints taken, Year 7 and new Year 12, these students should bring a packed lunch on Thursday and Friday. 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 Arbor lunch account has enough money for them to buy lunch from Tuesday 1st September, with Monday being the bank holiday.

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.

Dates for your diary

A Level results	13 August
GCSE Results / Sixth Form Enrolment	20 August

**** Advent Term school year 26/27****

School open for Yr7 + Yr12	26 August
School open for all year groups	27 August
Year 7 parents online drop in session	2 September
Year 13 parents Post 18 Options Info	2 September
Year 12 parents welcome evening	7 September
GCSE and A Level Awards evening	10 September
Year 6 Open Evening	17 September
Macmillan Coffee Morning	25 September
Charity non-uniform day-school closes for half term.	16 October

School opens to all students	26 October
Sixth Form Open Evening 4:30-6:30pm	5 November
Future Choices Event Yr's 10-13	12 November
Year 9 Parents Evening in school	19 November



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CMAT Inset day – school closed to all students 20 November

Year 7 Parents Evening in school 2 December

Snowcase 8 + 9 December

Christmas Movie hosted by Sixth Form 10 December

Christmas Market 4pm and Carol Concert 16 December

5:45pm

Christmas Non-uniform day - School closes at 12:30pm 18 December

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

Heavenly Father, we come before You at the close of this school year with hearts full of gratitude. Thank You for the learning, growth, and friendships we have experienced. Bless our students as they prepare for exams and new challenges, granting them confidence, wisdom, and resilience. Guide our teachers and staff, renewing their energy and dedication. Watch over our families during the summer, filling our time together with joy, love, and cherished memories. May we return refreshed and ready to continue our journey of learning and service.

Amen

Mrs S Conaghan
Principal

enc.