



St John Fisher Catholic High School

EDUCATING FOR LIFE

Hookstone Drive, Harrogate, HG2 8PT

Head Teacher: Mr S Mort B.A. (Hons), NPQH

Telephone: (01423) 887254 Website: www.sjfchs.org.uk Email: office@sjfchs.org.uk

1st January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

My apologies for contacting you on New Year's Day, however, I wanted to provide an update regarding the arrangements for the phased re-opening of schools following the Secretary of State's announcement that the Government will not be re-opening schools, as previously planned, next week. I appreciate this is yet more upheaval following an incredibly challenging year and I want you to know that your child's learning and well-being remains our highest priority.

Update on Reopening Dates

The new arrangements, as they apply to St John Fisher, are as follows:

In the week beginning 4th January:

- The school will be closed to all students on Monday 4th January due to the scheduled Staff Training Day
- The school will re-open to vulnerable children and children of key workers ONLY on Tuesday 5th January
- Remote learning will be provided for ALL year groups from Tuesday 5th January

In the week beginning 11th January:

- The school will continue to be open to vulnerable children and children of key workers
- The school will re-open to Years 11 and 13 from Monday 11th January
- Year 13 'catch-up' mock exams will commence during this week
- Remote learning will continue to be provided for years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12

In the week beginning 18th January:

- The school will re-open to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12
- All students will be expected to be in school on Monday 18th January





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Please note that 6th Form external examinations will go ahead as planned and students should attend school at the scheduled times for these examinations. Further information will follow from the Sixth Form office early next week.

Arrangements for Key Workers

Thank you to those key workers who have contacted the school to request on-site provision for your child from Tuesday 5th January. To those who have not yet replied please could you do so via office@sjfchs.org.uk by no later than 4pm on Friday 1st January. Please include your child's full name and year group and the dates they will be attending school.

Remote Learning

From Tuesday 5th January, all students who are at home will have access to remote learning. **Your child will be expected to contact their teacher, via Microsoft Teams, at the scheduled start of each lesson to register their participation in remote learning.** Please note this is required where your child is accessing work which has been uploaded to Microsoft Teams by their teacher, **and** where they are accessing a live lesson.

Transport and School Meals

To date, we have received notification that the following school transport will be available, as normal, from Tuesday 5th January. We would strongly advise that you contact your transport provider for clarification if they are not listed below.

- Connexions – Wetherby, Ripon, Boston Spa
- Tetley's – Leeds

The school kitchen will **not** be open during the week commencing Monday 4th January. Therefore, children of key workers will be expected to bring their own packed lunch. A free school meal (packed lunch) will be available for any student who is entitled to receive one.





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School Uniform and Timetable

Children of key workers will be expected to wear full uniform as normal from Tuesday 5th January. They will follow their normal timetable, and therefore will be expected to be in their designated outdoor zone by 8.50 a.m.

The same expectation will apply to Year 11 students when they return to school on Monday 11th January, and to all other year groups on their return to school on Monday 18th January.

Mass COVID-19 Tests in Schools

We are currently awaiting further guidance on the Governments plans for voluntary COVID-19 testing in schools. On Monday 4th January, I will be attending a remote meeting of school leaders, which has been convened by North Yorkshire County Council, where I hope to seek further guidance and clarification regarding testing in schools. I will update you as soon as I receive more information.

Thank you for your continued patience and support. I wish you and your families a happy new year.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Mort
Headteacher

