



Parent Newsletter

St Mary Magdalene Secondary

Issue No 10 | March | Wednesday 18th March

Dear Parents Carers,

I am writing with further information following on from latest advice from the Prime Minister. The COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented and constantly evolving.

The guidance from the Government has been clear: if any person in a household displays symptoms of either a new persistent cough or a high temperature, the entire family must stay at home for 14 days. As a result, we are now experiencing a high level of staff shortages, which will only increase in the coming days and weeks. The new school timetable from tomorrow will be:

Year 7	0855 – 1245	Lunch available between 1245 - 1330
Year 8	1325 - 1530	Lunch available between 1245 - 1330
Year 9	1325 - 1530	Lunch available between 1245 - 1330
Year 10	0855 - 1245	Lunch available between 1245 - 1330

I appreciate that this will pose a high level of challenge for many of you; however, in deciding on this timetable, I have ensured all our students are receiving taught lessons in the core subjects in a safe adult to student ratio. This timetable will remain until I share any further changes. Please note, any full school closure will only take place upon the advice of the Government.

Following the advice from Public Health England and the Government: “by this coming weekend – it will be necessary to go further and to ensure that those with the most serious health conditions are largely shielded from social contact for around 12 weeks” We do not expect to see any students in school from Monday 23rd March who have;

- Chronic (long term) respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema or bronchitis;
- Chronic heart disease, such as heart failure;
- Chronic kidney disease;
- Chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis;
- Chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson’s disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis, a learning disability or cerebral palsy;
- Diabetes;
- Sickle Cell;
- Weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy;
- Being seriously overweight (a BMI of 40 or above);

Please ensure you speak to your children about the importance of going straight home and social distancing. I would be highly concerned if any of our students are gathered in large crowds in any of our local areas.

SMH

You will find work for all students will be set on Show My Homework later today. Please check that your child has their login details and you have your details, if not please contact the school office. Staff will be checking SMH daily.

Message from our school Chaplain:

Change can be disruptive and unsettling. As the situation changes, so we need to catch up and find a new normal to help us settle and be at peace. Jesus' presence brought peace to his Disciples, the Holy Spirit brought peace to the early churches. My prayer for us is that we find ways of sharing love and peace with each other, that we find new ways of caring for each other even if we can't be together. May you feel God's presence, may you know God's peace and may you show God's love every day. Amen.

International trips update

We are still awaiting further information from our tour providers with regards to receiving our refunds for the international trips. I request your patience on this matter as this may take some time. I know that this is disappointing for our students but we will make every effort in rescheduling these trips for the future with the same set of students being offered the trip first.

For now, I would like to thank you all for your support and understanding in this extremely challenging time. The DfE helpline offers guidance for anyone with education related questions. You can call the helpline on 0800 046 8687 from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday or email DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk. I would also appreciate your support in informing the school if you are working within any of the services sectors. Please do email info.secondary@koinoniafederation.com and confirm if you work within the NHS, Social Service, Police, Fire service, Armed forces, Food distribution workers or Teachers.

Yours Sincerely

R. Hussain
Principal