

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College



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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone is managing to overcome the challenges of working from home and adapting to the current social distancing requirements.

We are so grateful for all the hard work of our parents and carers at the moment - we understand that it is not an easy time for anyone. It is so important to us that you and your family are safe and well.

Remote Learning developments

As you are aware, following the announcement of the school closure we had to initially manage an extremely fast launch of a remote learning system. We have been working really hard this week to make big improvements in our student's remote learning - hopefully, it will make life easier for everyone.

After Easter, we will be launching a new APP system 'Show my homework'. The system is very easy to use for all involved. Work can be pushed through the app to students and parents, and checked off as students work through their learning. Students are also able to communicate with teachers if they have any problems. The system will allow staff and parents to better monitor the completion of the work set and improve the overall quality of our remote learning. Additionally, the remote learning programmes we have devised for after the Easter break will be more varied and will include interactive and practical learning activities so as to avoid making our students work in front of a screen for five hours per day.

Easter Break from Remote Learning

I hope that you are looking forward to an Easter break of some description. The Easter period is going to be a strange time this year with continued restrictions and most of us needing to stay at home. It is important that all of us (staff, students, parents and carers) get the chance to take a break over this period to ensure we are all physically and mentally rested after what has been a turbulent few weeks for us all.

Our Easter break from remote learning will commence as planned from Monday 6th April for two weeks. The summer term will commence on Monday 20th April. During the holiday period there will be no remote learning set for our students. The students should hopefully be ready to start back on Monday 20th with fresh heads and enthusiasm.

Easter Challenges

We would like our students to still have an opportunity to take part in activities that keep them engaged in learning over the Easter break, where they wish to do so. Our staff have created some Easter Challenges that your child may want to take part in. Attached are a range of ideas and links to helpful websites. Why not break up their day by suggesting doing some of these activities – some of them might even be things you can do together.

We would love it if students are able to share their creations, their hard work and any projects they are undertaking. Please tweet us, send copies of photos via Messenger to our Facebook [page](#), or to the relevant subject support email addresses on our [website](#). There is no necessity for students to take part in these challenges, but achievement points will be awarded for the best efforts!

Easter Services

This weekend we begin an incredibly important time in the Christian calendar – Holy Week. It begins with Palm Sunday this weekend and concludes the following Saturday night, Holy Saturday, before the joyful celebration of Easter Day itself, a week on Sunday. Easter will be so very different for Christians this year with our inability to attend church services and Masses with our parish families, fortunately, lots of parishes have been live streaming, including our own Widnes Parish of St Wilfrid – this is the link to the YouTube page where the live streams are taking place: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52-K27EaYwySzRmeP3f3eA>. For more information please visit our College website Chaplaincy page https://www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk/college_community/chaplaincy/

Free Schools Meals

We have contacted all parents and carers eligible for free school meals and have sent out this week's £15 term-time food voucher. If you have not received the message and information, please contact us via the app or email and we will ensure you receive your entitlement. Further information will be sent out today around the provision of free school meals over the Easter period.

Year 11 and Y13 qualifications

A letter has been sent out today on behalf of Ofqual to all Y11 and Y13 parents and carers including the information schools received today. Over the next few weeks, we are expecting detailed guidance from the DfE about the standardised approach we are expected to follow. As always, we will update as and when we know more.

Summer Term advanced notice

I will provide more extensive details on arrangements for the summer term when there is more information from the government, however, for now, I wanted to provide some key dates and times. The summer term begins on Monday 20th April. Please note that the amended Early May Bank Holiday for this year for VE celebrations is Friday 8th May 2020.

Finally, on behalf of myself and everyone connected with Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College, I would like to wish you and your family good health, safety, and positivity during these challenging times and I also wish you a restful Easter.

Yours faithfully,

Danielle Scott