




# St Augustine's RC High School



Newsletter  
December 2020



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**Dear families,**

As we approach the final days of this term I wanted to clarify the arrangements up until Friday and the implications for Track and Trace for the first part of the school holiday.

There has been some coverage in the press about early closure for schools to provide a “fire break” but the DfE have made it clear that schools cannot close early this term. Schools were given the option of converting the final day of term to a staff training day but we felt that this was too disruptive for families with such short notice. We will therefore be finishing term as planned, at 12.15pm on Friday 18th December.

**Track and Trace.** Thankfully, we have seen a decline in the number of positive cases in recent weeks with far fewer numbers of children having to self-isolate due to proximity contact within school. However, we have a duty to continue to conduct track and trace within school for 6 days after the end of term. This means that if your child receives a positive test result for COVID19 and they were in school 48 hours before their symptoms showed, you must contact school and inform us via the link on the school web page.

If your child receives a positive test, having had symptoms (cough, temperature, loss or change of smell / taste) on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December, then you should inform school via the online form on the school website (**if symptoms begin after 12.15pm on Sunday 20th December there is no requirement to inform school**). We will need the following information:

Name, date of birth and form group of the pupil.

Date of onset of symptoms

Date of test

Date of test result

Names of friends who have had sustained contact on the yard.

Names of proximity contacts from the school bus.

School will be identifying the proximity contacts from class bubbles via our seating plans.

In addition we would request that you send a copy (screenshot or email) of the positive test result via email to [info@sarchs.com](mailto:info@sarchs.com).

On receipt of this information, proximity contacts will be sent an email and text informing families of the need for each child identified to self isolate for 10 days from the last contact with the index case pupil. Please be aware that this notification could be as late as 24th December due to time lags between testing and test results being reported.

To reduce the chances that your child will be affected by this process, we would ask you to reinforce school's message about the importance of social distancing during break and lunchtimes. The larger the social group at break and lunch, the greater the likelihood that a family Christmas will be affected by the need for individual pupils to self-isolate.

*Mr Wright*

## Uniform Matters

Please ensure that on return from the Christmas holiday, appearance and uniform are in line with the school policy. This includes the need for hair to be no shorter than a “Number 3” with no extreme styles. Hair should be one natural colour and false nails, eyelashes and other adornments are not allowed. If you are unsure of any of these rules please check the school website.

### Coats

With the increasing likelihood of cold and wet weather next term, please ensure that pupils are wearing appropriate school coats. We ask that coats are a plain colour and without obvious designer logos. Shower proof coats provide the best protection against the elements and we would discourage the recent fashion for “fluffy” coats which absorb water and increase humidity in the building when pupils come inside. Denim and leather (look) jackets and hoodies are not allowed. Scarves, gloves and hats may be worn in cold weather.

### Umbrellas

Pupils are allowed to bring umbrellas to school but these must be the retractable type that can fold into a bag and not the walking stick type.

### Face Coverings

All pupils must wear face coverings in communal areas in school and on school buses. We are advising pupils to bring a spare mask as many of the disposable type tend to break with use. Those with medical exemption should wear their lanyards so they can be clearly seen. Pupils who repeatedly fail to bring / wear a mask will receive sanctions.

### Smart Watches

We understand that these are a popular Christmas present but they can be a distraction in class so are not allowed in school.

## Parents' Evenings

We are hoping to run virtual Parents' Evenings next term using an online system to book individual meetings with teachers on a video platform. Details to follow.

## Year 9 Options Process

We will begin discussing the options process with pupils early in the Spring term, after our return from Christmas. To ensure pupils and parents have access to the subject specific information that they need to make their option choices we will:

- Include all relevant subject information in the 2021 Options Booklet which will be available from the school website from early January.
- Communicate the progress that pupils are making in various subjects to parents in a report that will be issued the week beginning 18th January
- Hold an online Year 9 Options Evening with presentations to explain the options process with specific subject information.
- Hold an online Parents' Evening with opportunities for parents to discuss progress and options with staff.
- Be available for questions and queries.

We anticipate that completed option forms should be returned by Friday February 12th.

**A reminder that we return to school on Monday 4th January to WEEK 2 of the timetable.**

## Year 11 Revision Classes – January 2021

### Monday (Not first day back)

Week 1 Spanish – Room 15  
Week 2 French – Room 15  
Combined Science Sets 1-5

### Tuesday

English – Room 8 and Room 9  
Sports Studies – Lab 1  
Geography – Room 22  
Maths

### Wednesday

Maths

### Thursday

Science Separates Opt A/B      Maths      English Room 10

### Friday

RE      GCSE PE



Art – Lunchtime Mon (Art 1 only) Friday (Art 2 only). Extra subjects and other lunchtime clubs may be added. After school sessions may be amended and promoted in class as we return.

Thanks to staff who provide these sessions voluntarily for pupils.

## Useful Contact Numbers, Websites & Email Addresses

Children's Social Care 0300 123 6720; out of hours 0300 123 6722

CAMHS (Children & Adolescent Mental Health Services, 5-16 years) Preston: 01772 777344 / [www.CAMHS-resources.co.uk](http://www.CAMHS-resources.co.uk)

Children's Learning & Disability/ Complex Needs Services: 01254 283195

Early Intervention into Psychosis Services: The Mount Accrington: 01254 226390

ELCAS (East Lancs Child & Adolescent Services): 01282 804496 / 01254 733716

Home-Start: Rossendale, Burnley & Hyndburn 01706 214621, Pendle & Ribble Valley 01282 690536

KOOTH – online free, safe and anonymous support for young people – [kooth.com](http://kooth.com)

Lancashire County Council Youth Zone: [talkzone@Lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:talkzone@Lancashire.gov.uk) Text 07786511111, Call 0800 511111

The Magdalene Project: Counselling Service for the whole family: 01706 870939

Lancashire Mind: 01257 231660, [admin@lancashiremind.org.uk](mailto:admin@lancashiremind.org.uk)

Minds Matter (NHS mental health services for 16yrs +) Burnley: 01282 657268

Mental Health Helpline: 0800 915 4640

The Mix: 0808 808 4994 1pm-11pm, [www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk) You can talk on phone, by email or webchat.

NSPCC: Call 0800 1111, email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

SHOUT: For support in a crisis, Text: SHOUT to 85258

YMCA Blackburn: 01254 51009, [enquires@blackburn.ymca.org.uk](mailto:enquires@blackburn.ymca.org.uk)

Young Addaction (support for substance misuse): 0808 164 0074

Young Minds – [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

## Requested Publicity - Lancashire Road Safety Partnership

We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

### However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is **on private land**.

It's currently against the law to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement.

### Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance



**Lancashire**  
Road Safety  
Partnership

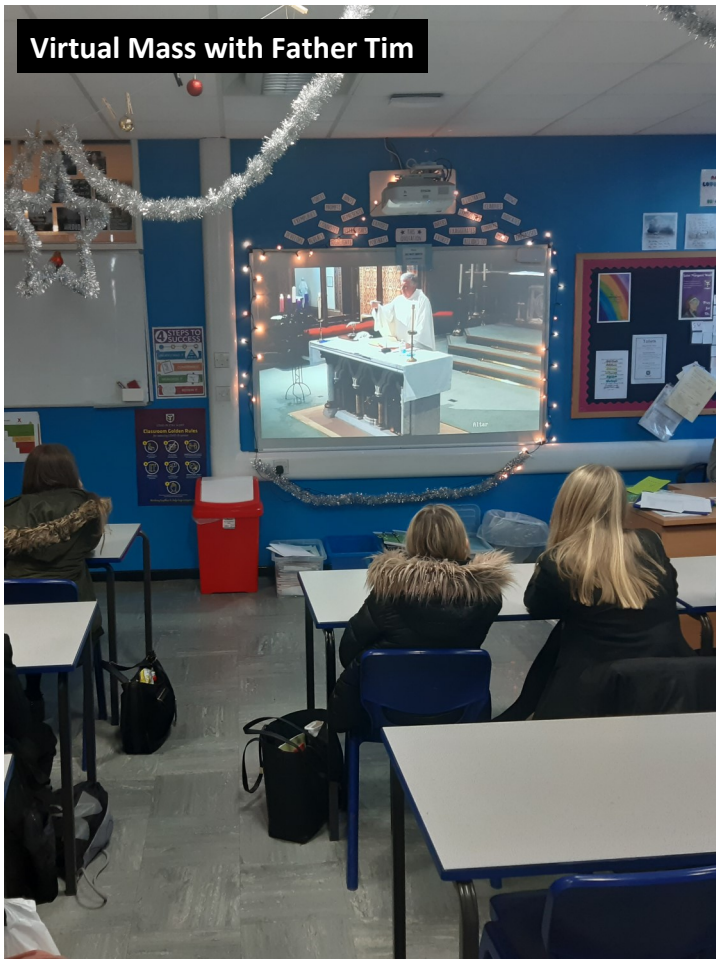
[www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk](http://www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk)

 Lancs Road Safety

 @LancsRoadSafety



Virtual Mass with Father Tim



Ed's 12 Days of Christmas



Food Bank Donations—Thank You!



*And finally, we wish you a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year -  
from all at Saint Augustine's.*