



# St Cuthbert Mayne School

Joint Catholic and Church of England 11-18 Comprehensive School Dioceses of Plymouth and Exeter

Headteacher  
Mr James Down

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Friday 19th March 2021

Dear Parents,

This time last year I was writing to all parents informing them that the school gates would close from 3pm that day and would remain closed as we entered a National Lockdown. Who would have imagined the last 12 months would have played out in the way they have!

Today, we bring to a close the first full week of face to face teaching after the most recent National Lockdown. I want to say how great it has been to welcome all students back this week. The buzz of learning has returned to all classrooms as students get back into the rhythm and routine of school life again. We know there have been some tired students this week and there will be some tired teachers too this weekend! As we approach Easter and look forward to the summer term there is a lot to be excited about.

## Year 7 Intake 2021

I am pleased to report that the school will be oversubscribed in Year 7 for September 2021. This means we have more students wanting to come to STCM than we have places for. This is a strong position for the school to be in moving forward and is a recognition of the hard work that staff are doing to continuously improve our school.

## Lent Prayer

As we journey through this liturgical season of Lent we have been encouraging staff and students to engage with the three disciples of Lent. These are fasting, almsgiving and prayer. Our Chaplaincy Team has set up a virtual student prayer group. Please encourage your children to join this on a Thursday at 4pm.

## Online Safety

It can feel very overwhelming trying to keep up with the latest games and apps that your child might be asking to download and use. Net Aware is an excellent resource and brings together the safety advice by the NSPCC and the technical know-how with O2 to offer support to parents in keeping children safe. The website includes information on age restrictions, ratings, features, potential risks and top tips for parents - including a template for family online agreements - a great way to start a conversation about keeping the whole family safe.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/tips-and-advice/>



International Cross  
of Nails Schools



## **Mental Health**

For more advice and support on managing your child's anxiety please do click on the link below to Young Minds, where you can find a Parents A - Z Guide on what advice to give your child if they are experiencing specific mental health conditions and experiencing life events that they might be finding challenging.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/>

## **Student Welfare Support**

The welfare team is on hand to help, support and offer guidance to students.

Drop-in sessions are available at break times on the following days:

- Mondays - Year 7 - Cornerstone
- Tuesdays - Year 12/13 - C6
- Wednesdays - Year 8/9 - Cornerstone
- Friday - Year 10/11 - Cornerstone

## **A few Reminders**

Following the first week back, we would like to give the following reminders:

- The school gates don't open until 8:30am. Please ensure your child arrives at an appropriate time between 8:30 and 8:40am.
- Students wearing items of clothing/technology that are not part of our uniform code will be asked to remove them. These include hoodies, trainers and headphones.
- KS4 & 5 students must bring their charged Chromebooks with them.
- Students cycling to school should be wearing a helmet. Students should not bring skateboards to school.
- Mobile phones should be switched off and out of site when students are in school.
- If your child is unwell for any reason, then please do not send them into school, and report their absence via the absence line. If they have symptoms of Covid-19 you should self isolate and arrange to get a test as soon as possible. Please do not send them into school!

## **Home Testing**

Today, your child will be bringing home a Covid -19 Home Testing kit. Secondary school aged children are now being asked to complete a Covid-19 test at home twice each week with the support of their parents. Students should complete a test after 6pm on a Sunday and on a Wednesday evening.

It is really simple to complete the test at home. Your child will bring home a very simple instruction leaflet to help you complete the test at home. The link below will take you to a short video to help you:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9XR8RZxKNo&t=4s>

Parents are asked to record the results for their child immediately after this becomes available via the NHS website. [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)

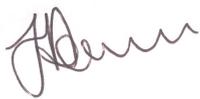
Parents are also asked to inform the school of the result by clicking on the link below:

[Student Home Testing Results Form](#)

If you require any further information or support around Home Testing then please contact Hannah Aske our Testing Coordinator. Hannah can be contacted by emailing: [masstesting@stcm.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:masstesting@stcm.torbay.sch.uk) or contacting the school office on 01803 328725.

Wishing you all a very relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Down', written in a cursive style.

Mr. James Down  
Headteacher