



# St Cuthbert Mayne School

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

Headteacher  
Mr James Down

Trumlands Road  
Torquay  
TQ1 4RN  
01803 328725  
admin@stcm.torbay.sch.uk  
[st-cuthbertmayne.co.uk](http://st-cuthbertmayne.co.uk)

Monday 25th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to your Monday update from school. I hope that you were able to enjoy the lovely weather in some way this weekend, and that you and your family remain safe and well during this period of lockdown.

## Cyber Security

It has come to our attention that there has been some misuse of our Google platform to provide remote learning for students. Over the coming days we will be working with students to enable them to enhance their password protection so they can keep their profiles cyber secure. Tonight we are suspending all Y9 Google accounts to enable a hard rest of all passwords. An email will be sent to all Y9 parents tomorrow with a new password for their child. It is really important that students do not share their password with their friends. We take the online security and safety of our school and students very seriously, and so we have reported this matter to Devon & Cornwall Police. We will now be working with the Police and the Digital Capability Unit to identify who is responsible for misusing the platform. It is really important that students are aware that these measures have been taken, to avoid them falling foul of the law.

## Vulnerable and critical worker provision

We are very close to capacity for the number of vulnerable children and the children of critical workers that can be accommodated safely in school. Parents should only access a place in school if there is no other alternative to enable their child to learn remotely. Moving forward, we may have to restrict places by only allowing children of critical worker families where both parents are critical workers. We recognise how challenging remote learning can be, but we must all do our bit to drive infection rates down. If we all play our part we can get through this more quickly and all children will then be in a position to return to school.

## Covid-19 Symptoms



We are all aware of the top three Covid-19 symptoms but we have now become aware of a wider range of symptoms that are outside of the traditional three. Should your child be unwell with a cold, sore throat or headache then please do not send them to school. It is likely that your child has a seasonal illness, but the advice is to isolate and arrange a Covid-19 test just to be on the safe side. Sending children who are unwell into school compromises the places of all vulnerable and critical worker children. The last thing we want is to close the school completely.

### **Reopening of school**

You might have read the speculation in the national or local media that schools won't fully reopen until Easter, or even May this year! This headline will be dominating the news this week. I would like to reassure you that no plans have been communicated to schools through any official government channels as yet. Last week the Education Secretary said that schools would be given two weeks' notice in advance of any date to bring back all students to school. This is a welcome change from the previous 24-48 hours. As soon as I am informed of any formal plans I will write to all parents.

### **Mass Testing**

Thank you all for embracing the testing system, We hope that the process went well. Please do send any feedback or comments that would like to bring to our attention to our Mass Testing Team Leader, Hannah Aske on [Hannah.Aske@stcm.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:Hannah.Aske@stcm.torbay.sch.uk).

Please remember to provide consent for your child to participate in the testing programme if you have not already done so. In order to speed up the registration process we request that parents include the first line of the student's home address, postcode and your mobile phone number when providing consent. You can click [here](#) to access the consent form. If you have already provided consent please could you ensure that your child is also aware of the details mentioned above, as this will speed the process up significantly. If you have any questions please contact Hannah Aske, who is happy to help.

COVID testing for students will continue this week. Students who are testing for their first time will be tested again on Friday, however the tests will take place on Mondays and Tuesdays thereafter.

### **Remote Learning**

Thank you again to you for supporting your child with remote learning. We understand that this can cause added pressure for families, and so we are also working hard to support our students in this area. We would like some feedback from parents in order to help us to improve our remote learning provision. Please could you kindly click on the link below and complete the short questionnaire by Friday 29th January.

[Remote Learning Questionnaire](#)

## Google Classroom Codes

The way we publish Google classroom codes is changing. These are no longer published within the live lesson timetables on the school website. All students will be able to access the meeting code for their class, and therefore their live lessons, by logging into Google Classroom.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr. James Down  
Headteacher