



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newbold Road • Upper Newbold • Chesterfield • S41 8AG

Headteacher: Mrs M Dengate M.Phil

Telephone: 01246 201191

Email: enquiries@stmaryschesterfield.org.uk
www.st-maryshigh.derbyshire.sch.uk

20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are aware, we have now been instructed to close the school, to almost all children, following the end of the school day on Friday. Children of parents/carers who are key workers, and children who are in specifically identified groups, have been contacted separately and arrangements made for school provision from Monday.

School is closed to all other pupils. Departments have, however, worked hard to arrange work for pupils and to also direct pupils to online learning, which can be completed at home. Please see our website for further details and comprehensive information about mental health and wellbeing support.

For our Year 13 and Year 11 students this has been a particularly stressful time and whilst there are many unknowns at the moment, I am absolutely confident that they will still successfully transition to the next stage of their education. I will share all relevant information as soon as I receive it.

Although we are in a period of uncertainty, I am still absolutely certain about the most important things. Our pupils are exceptional young men and women, they are kind and tolerant and whether in school or not, will be a force of good in the world. St Mary's faith, culture, and values are part of our young people and they now need to take their experience from school and make a difference in the world.

During this difficult period we must put family and friendship first and keep our faith at the centre of school, even when we are not all physically here. Even though pupils may not embrace it now, our faith will always be there for them. God knows them by name and they are all unique and special just as they are.

Whilst we are not all together I pray that our children will be the best versions of themselves; we have provided them with the moral compass to navigate their way through life and they must utilise it now.

St Mary's will weather this storm and I very much look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to school, to continue their education in the broadest sense, as soon as possible.

God Bless

Mrs M Dengate
Headteacher

Live, Love and Learn in the Light of Christ
