



St. Julie's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mr. T. Alderman

"Serve the good God well with much liberty of spirit"

17 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to advise that I have taken the decision to **cancel the Year 12/13 Parents Evening**. This is on the advice of government who have stated "now is the time for everyone to stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel." We will send relevant information about your daughter or son in due course through the post. Staff within school will be making use of this time to populate the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) so students have access to helpful learning resources from home and within school, so they can continue to receive their education should they need to self-isolate.

I understand that this is a very difficult time for all young people. We are evaluating the guidance from government on a day by day basis and implementing it accordingly.

We are receiving lots of queries about exams, school closure and more, to which there are no answers other than it is business as usual until we are informed otherwise. You will be aware that we had to take a difficult decision today to suspend Year 12 lessons for 3 days due to staff absence. This has allowed me to redeploy staff around the school so younger students can continue to be educated in school. I would like to extend my gratitude for the mature way in which Year 12 students have responded to this request. They may work from home, or unsupervised within school.

Can I also reassure parents that school is a safe place to be. We have followed all guidance about encouraging hand washing, sanitising and avoiding hand to face contact. Any student exhibiting any symptoms in school are being isolated and sent home. Staff are issuing tissues and hand gel to students if they cough or sneeze, so they can sanitise their hands. Students using computers in lessons are being issued hand gel afterwards so they can minimise risk of picking up microbes. We have increased the number of cleaning staff by 50% and, in addition to the cleaning that takes place for 3 hours at the end of the school day, we now have 3 cleaning staff whose sole job throughout the day is to clean and sanitise surfaces such as door handles, hand rails and dining tables as well as toilet areas.

Finally, thank you for your consideration and understanding as we deal with the current situation.

Yours faithfully

Mr T Alderman
Headteacher