

3rd July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 11 (current)

I hope you and your family are safe and well. I am writing to inform you about the plans for September. Following national school closures on Monday 23 March we had to adapt very quickly to new ways of working. Over the last few months we have developed remote learning systems to support your daughter's education at home. May I take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful work you have completed with your daughter during these very difficult times. We are aware that many families have faced great difficulties and trauma over the last few months and we will continue to support families moving forward.

Well-being and Support

Over the last few months school has been extremely busy ensuring that social distancing and hygiene measures are in place for all students and staff. Alongside this, we have continued to maintain a thriving community which is reflected in the weekly newsletters www.stjulies.org.uk. This captures a snapshot of the work which has taken place over the last few months to engage students in remote learning as well as take part in a range of activities.

If your daughter meets the entry requirements for Sixth Form and wishes to return in September, we want to reassure you that her well-being is of the utmost importance to us. It is essential that as a Catholic community your daughter has the opportunity to reflect on the last few months and for staff to support your daughter's individual needs. We fully appreciate that during this global pandemic, families may have faced great adversity and trauma. Through our transition programme we will ensure that each student can share their experiences and have access to appropriate support, if required. We will focus on the importance of kindness, friendship, respect and resilience.

Remote Learning

Your daughter can continue to access pre-recorded videos via Educake, GCSEPod, MathsWatch, Oak National Academy and Pearson. Alongside this, staff have released some pre-recorded videos to support new topics or to explain key concepts.

Whilst the interactive features of the VLE offer a better experience we appreciate that online home learning may not always be possible. If you are having technical difficulties with access please email passwords@stjulies.org.uk, but for those who are completely unable to access digital resources we ask parents to contact school reception@stjulies.org.uk and request paper copies of work which will then be posted home.

All Year 11 to 12 summer bridging work can be accessed via the VLE, MathsWatch and Educake. The deadline for your daughter to complete and return this will be Friday 4 September. If your daughter is accepted onto an A Level course (or equivalent), an assigned teacher will mark this work and provide feedback. We have advised students to only complete bridging work for the courses they are interested in studying from September. **All coursing is subject to students meeting the Governors' Entry Requirements for Sixth Form.**

A copy of your daughter's end of year report will be published home in July. This will include academic information from September 2019 to March 2020. Students will also be commended on any

work completed during national school closures. We will not be able to provide any operational grades because this may compromise the actual grades awarded on results day.

GCSE Results Day

GCSE results day will take place on Thursday 20 August (10-12:00pm). Students will receive a print out of their grades awarded. Due to the exceptional circumstances regarding summer exams in 2020, staff will be on hand to answer any questions and support students with their next steps. Information was posted to all Year 11, 12 and 13 parents on 3 April, 20 April and 27 April. This outlined guidance on the exam grading process for Summer 2020. A copy of the Ofqual guidance www.gov.uk/ofqual 'Summer 2020 grades for GCSE and A Level – guidance for teachers, students and parents' was also provided for parents (copy enclosed). On page 4 of this document it states:

How will centre assessment grades work?

We are asking schools and colleges to use their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grade they believe a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year. It is important that schools and colleges take into account the full range of available evidence when they grade students – including non-exam assessment; the results of any homework assignments or mock exams; any other records of student performance over the course of study.

This information will allow Ofqual, with exam boards, to standardise grades across schools and colleges, to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others when GCSE, AS and A level students in England are making those judgements. That means the final grade your daughter receives could be different from the one we submitted to the exam board.

An additional letter regarding GCSE Results Day will be sent out before the end of term to outline the plans and procedures for the day.

Due to social distancing measures and strict guidance from Public Health England, students are encouraged to attend school unaccompanied. On arrival, your daughter will be assigned to a designated area to receive her results. If she has met the Governors' entry requirements www.stjulies.org.uk for Sixth Form she will be able to complete the application process on the day. For students who have not met the entry requirements, staff will be available to discuss your daughter's next steps. Unfortunately we cannot have large groups of people mixing on site therefore students will only be allowed on site for a maximum of thirty minutes. There will also be a queuing system to limit the amount of students on site at any one time.

Access to Year 12 Study Programmes 2020/21

Programme of Study	Entry requirements
X4 A Levels/Level 3 Applied General + Core RE + Enrichment + 1 week work experience (Extended Project Qualification will be optional)	Minimum of 5 x 9 – 5 GCSE; average grade of at least 5 or above across all subjects; minimum Grade 5 in English and Mathematics
X3 A Levels/Level 3 Applied General + Core RE + Enrichment + 1 week work experience	Minimum of 5 x 9 – 4 GCSE; average grade of Grade 4 or above across all subjects
X2 A Level/L3 Applied General courses and weekly work experience pathway (only for students not considering university)	GCSE performance meets subject specific entry criteria for subjects being taken (minimum Grade 4 or above in specified subjects)

Autumn Exam Series

An important feature of the overall arrangements this summer is the planned additional exam series in the autumn, which will provide an opportunity for students unable to receive a calculated grade, and others who would like the opportunity to improve their grade, to take an exam.

Due to the current uncertainty about when schools and colleges will re-open fully and the public health restrictions that may be in place, Ofqual are not consulting on the exact dates when the exams should take place. If possible, Ofqual envisage that AS and A level exams should take place in October and GCSE exams in November, with the exact timing to be confirmed, having taken advice from government, the exam boards and groups representing schools, colleges, teachers and students.

KS5 Curriculum

A full curriculum overview for each department can be accessed via the school website www.stjulies.org.uk. This includes key information for each department which also includes prior knowledge and how we build on skills. A copy of the curriculum booklet for 2020/21 can also be viewed via the website.

Assessment

To support your daughter's progress at St. Julie's, she will be provided with an A Level flightpath target from the start of Year 12 to the end of Year 13. Please refer to the Assessment section of the school website for further information. Baseline assessments will take place during September in most subject areas. This will provide an overview for staff to identify your daughter's strengths and areas for development.

Other key information

Information regarding school uniform, behaviour for learning and general school rules can be accessed via the school website.

Chaplaincy website

We actively encourage families to access the Chaplaincy website which features a Thought for the Day – every day - as well as topical weekly resources and other information about our school ethos <http://chaplaincy.stjulies.org.uk/>

Key contacts

We understand that you may have additional questions in preparation for the start of term, please use the contact details below if you require any further information.

Miss Gawley – Head of Middle School lgawley@stjulies.org.uk

Mrs Jones – Head of Upper School ajones@stjulies.org.uk

Mr Willis – Deputy Headteacher KS4/5 cpwillis@stjulies.org.uk

Mrs McCourt – Deputy Headteacher KS3/4 kmccourt@stjulies.org.uk

INSET day – Tuesday 1 September

Year 7 Induction Day – Wednesday 2 September

Year 12 Induction – Wednesday 2 September – Mrs Jones will provide further details regarding the plans for the day

From Thursday 3 September, we will hit the ground running with full academic lessons starting from 9:50am. Alongside this, students will be supported by our pastoral teams and PSHE programme.

All calendar dates and weekly updates will be published via the school website www.stjulies.org.uk. To support the first month of school, please see below a copy of the academic calendar. The academic calendar for 2020/21 will be published on the school website.

Advent Term – September		
Date	Day	Events
31/08/2020	Monday	
01/09/2020	Tuesday	INSET Day 1
02/09/2020	Wednesday	Year 7 – Induction Day: First Day at St. Julie’s Catholic High School – well-being, teamwork and orientation activities
03/09/2020	Thursday	All students return to school Year 13 Mock exam re-sits begin 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 students return
04/09/2020	Friday	Summer Bridging work deadline
05/09/2020	Saturday	
06/09/2020	Sunday	
07/09/2020	Monday	Baseline assessments begin – Year 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 School photographs
08/09/2020	Tuesday	International Literacy Day
09/09/2020	Wednesday	
10/09/2020	Thursday	Year 7 SEN Welcome Event
11/09/2020	Friday	
12/09/2020	Saturday	
13/09/2020	Sunday	
14/09/2020	Monday	Year 7 GL Assessments, reading, spelling and CAT4 Year 11 Revision Programme starts Year 9 Lucid testing and Year 12 Access Arrangements Year 8 – 13 Target setting letters published
15/09/2020	Tuesday	International Day of Democracy
16/09/2020	Wednesday	National Teaching Assistants Day
17/09/2020	Thursday	Year 4, 5 and 6 Open Evening – 3.30-6.00pm
18/09/2020	Friday	
19/09/2020	Saturday	
20/09/2020	Sunday	
21/09/2020	Monday	International Day of Peace
22/09/2020	Tuesday	Staff training from 3.30pm
23/09/2020	Wednesday	
24/09/2020	Thursday	Year 11 Prefects Inauguration Ceremony 6pm
25/09/2020	Friday	
26/09/2020	Saturday	
27/09/2020	Sunday	
28/09/2020	Monday	Year 7 Targets and Setting letters published to parents Sixth Form Attitude to Learning survey ADHD Awareness Month
29/09/2020	Tuesday	PSHE lesson 1 – Period 1

		Year 9 SEN Parent event
30/09/2020	Wednesday	

We look forward to welcoming your daughter back to St. Julie's in September. Once we receive further guidance from the government regarding social distancing measures for September, I will communicate this information with you. **Public Health England and the DfE will release additional guidance regarding the wider reopening of schools. We will notify you of any amendments or changes as soon as we receive this information.** In the meantime, I hope you and your family take time to rest and enjoy the summer holidays. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you require any further information.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs K McCourt
Deputy Headteacher