

Our ref: KEG/C/1521/MM

Date: 18 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware, the Government has tonight made the decision that all schools in England are to close at the end of Friday, 20 March 2020.

Based on staffing and our ability to keep our young people safe and well-supported, we have made the following decisions with regards to the next two days:

Thursday 19th March and Friday 20 March - School will be open to Years 7, 8, 11 and 13 as planned. Years 9, 10 and 12 will work from home as directed in our letter earlier.

From Monday all pupils should follow their normal timetables from home accessing the resources they need for the daily lesson from the Show My Homework online platform. For example, if you have Maths on a Monday Period 3 on Week A, from 11:20 until 12:20 you should follow the work set by the teacher for your group for that lesson on that day.

Teachers will be adding work to this site daily and will be checking work where it is possible to hand in e.g. by completing an online quiz set by the teachers. If you complete any work that is due to be physically handed in, please keep this to hand until the school reopens and you can return it to the teacher. Some teachers may wish you to use other online study tools such as Google Classrooms, but they will still give their instructions in Show My Homework so this will always be your first point of contact. Teachers will aim as far as possible to set work that recaps topics you have already covered in order to help you to be able to follow the work set and to ensure no one falls behind.

If there is a problem with Show My Homework (which is possible given the increased use by a number of schools), teachers will move to setting work by email. Again, follow your normal timetable and follow the directions of your teacher as set out on the email and any attachment. If you have a practical subject e.g. Dance, PE or DT, the teacher will still try to give some advice on activity that you can complete at home. All pupils in Y9 and 10 have been given an exercise book to help record work in addition to any normal book they use. These will be given to years 7, 8, 11 and 13 by the end of Friday.

We will keep you updated via the school website and Twitter feed and by email so please keep checking these for updates.

Should you have any technical issues or questions about Show My Homework please email us on enquiries@saintben.derby.sch.uk



Saint Benedict
A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Students in receipt of Free School Meals: The Government has tonight confirmed that they will be looking at ways to continue to support students in receipt of Free School Meals. Once we know more information, we will let you know.

Examinations: The Government has tonight confirmed that GCSE and A-Level examinations will not take place in May/June. Once we know more information, we will let you know. In the mean time we would encourage all of our year 11 and 13 pupils to keep working until we know how the government plan to assess pupils and award results. Please encourage your children not to worry, every effort will be made to ensure their hard work is recognised and their results reflect this.

Safeguarding and supporting our families: Our Pastoral team will be continuing to support families during this unsettling time and will stay in close contact. For any safeguarding issues, the Designated Safeguarding Leader in the school is Mr Kelly. If you have any concerns please email; safeguarding@saintben.derby.sch.uk and our team, who will be continuing to visit families wherever possible, will respond.

Provision for children of Key Workers: Tomorrow the government will issue guidance on which employment sectors this applies to and what provision schools should offer. We will send out a survey to gather this information and plan accordingly. In the meantime if there are any Parents who are employed in the Health sector or in other key sectors please contact us on enquiries@saintben.derby.sch.uk and we will support in any way we can.

We will aim to reopen the school to all year groups as soon as we are able to do so. Please keep checking the website, texts and emails for details.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and send my best wishes to you and your families. These are unprecedented times. Challenging times bring out the best in us, and we are always stronger when working together, even when it is harder to physically be together. Please continue to look out for one another and especially the most vulnerable. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers.

God Bless you all and your families.

Kevin Gritton & All the staff at Saint Benedict



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Saint Benedict Voluntary Academy
Duffield Road, Darley Abbey, Derby DE22 1JD
enquiries@saintben.derby.sch.uk
Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust