



St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Headteacher Ms P M Hanrahan BA (Hons)

27th March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well in these difficult times. I thank you for your kind messages and offers of help. I would ask for your continued prayers and I am sure we will take up some of the offers of help when life returns to normal. Please stay safe and keep to the advice that we are given about social distancing and isolation. Please follow and help our students to ensure they follow the hygiene rules especially about hand washing.

Partial Opening

Since Monday 23rd March, in line with the government directive we will not be operating as a school; we will be operating as a facility to provide care for children. We will provide this for children of key workers and for those children in vulnerable groups who require this service. We know that many of you have told us when and how often you may need this service. Please do keep us up to date if what you have requested changes so we know whether we expect your child/ren or not. Please do note that this is to be used if there is no other provision for your child/ren in these times. The government is clear that this is only if this is the only option.

The school site will open at 8.45am and will close at 3.30pm for students. There is a facility to buy a meal from the canteen as per usual; the choices are limited as very few students and staff are in.

FSM and provision

As of Monday 30th March, we start a weekly hamper service for those children in receipt of Free School Meals. This covers the term time provision for a midday meal. If you are eligible we have sent you a letter asking about this. Please come to the school reception from 1pm onwards and we will give you your hamper. Please be patient with us and note social distancing. The School is open for collection of hampers until 3.30pm. If you have a query please use the email support@stfrancis.cc.

If you are now in a position where you think you could be eligible to apply please read the attached letter: <https://www.stfrancis.cc/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FSM-update-24-03-20f-1.pdf>

Teaching and Learning

Thank you for your patience as Firefly had some issues this week. We hope you have been able to access the facility as the week has progressed. Students are having their lessons uploaded daily as

Erdington Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RN
tel: 01922 740300 fax: 01922 740330 www.stfrancis.cc postbox@stfrancis.cc



per their timetables. Students can message their teachers through firefly if they need to ask anything about the work. We aim that we will answer within 24 hours.

Wellbeing

We are preparing some support materials to help students with the huge and fast change to their lives. We will start to put these on the website next week. They will be in a dedicated area called COVID-19. We know that these days are challenging for us all and that already many of our young people will be missing school and seeing their friends and maybe even their teachers! Their routines have been changed and we know it is important for us all to have some routine. Mr Salkeld has sent a suggested daily routine to all the students to help with daily routines to keep physically and mentally active.

Safeguarding

We are still totally committed to ensuring the safeguarding of our whole community. Some of you will be contacted by us to check all is safe and well. Our duties have not changed just because school is not open. It is essential that we have the correct contact details for you; ***if you have a new mobile number; have moved house or changed your place of work please advise us as soon as possible of your new details. This is vital please.***

Trips and Transport

Please can we request that you are patient with us in these unprecedented times. The Ski trip, Aberdovey and Lourdes are not going ahead. The Ski trip and Aberdovey monies cannot be refunded yet as we have not been refunded to yet. We are uncertain as to when they will be. Life has changed for everyone and this has brought different processes for claiming monies back. We are doing our very best to ensure we can sort the refund process. The same applies for monies for transport and the prom. We are working our way through all of this but this may be a long process.

A levels and GCSEs

We are expecting to be informed next week as to the exact data and information that is required by the exams board in order for the awarding of GCSEs and A levels to happen. We will update you when we know. Please note we are not able to say more than this now. Please do not ask teachers for calculated grades as they will not know your final calculated grades in any subject until national publication (currently planned for July 2020). If schools and teachers require additional information they will contact you directly.

Many thanks for your continued support in these difficult days.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Hanrahan

Headteacher



St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Headteacher Ms P M Hanrahan BA (Hons)

Erdington Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RN
tel: 01922 740300 fax: 01922 740330 www.stfrancis.cc postbox@stfrancis.cc

