

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 4 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information plus details of any letter sent home during the last week.

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

At last, the day arrived this week when we finally welcomed students back to St Katherine's. It has been far too long with empty classrooms and it has felt truly wonderful welcoming back students over the last two days. Having visited a number of classrooms, it has been great to see students eager to engage in their learning, building on their prior knowledge and skills. Our planning and risk assessment have served our community well over the past two days, helping to create new routines and ways of working - we are all still adjusting and will no doubt continue to remind each other next week. Our risk assessment is available on our website [here](#).

Please take time to read the important information in our Weekly Communications along with important details in our letters sent out [this week](#).

We have welcomed a number of new staff joining the St Katherine's team this week. We continue to invest in our curriculum and pastoral support to ensure we continue to deliver a high quality provision for all our students.

Said Benchama	Head of MFL
Geraint Davies	Head of Sixth Form
Jessica Huzzey	Head of Philosophy/Beliefs/PSHE/Citizenship
Sarah McInerney	Teacher /English
Matt Maw	Deputy Headteacher
Robert Moore	Deputy Head of House
Elisha Owen	Teacher /PE
Kate Richards	Deputy Headteacher
Dan Scott	Pastoral Support Assistant

We are here to support all our young people with their learning at all times and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further support in any of the adjustments we are making. Please refer to the 'Who to contact at St Katherine's' table below. We are always keen to hear your feedback and please share this using this [form](#).

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our whole community on Monday as we begin 2020/21 in earnest.

Mr Humphreys
Headteacher

WHO TO CONTACT AT ST KATHERINE'S

For queries about:	Name	Contact:
Safeguarding	Mrs K Crocker	crockerk@skdrive.org
Courses, assignments or resources		Subject Teachers
Access to online library resources	Ms Wyld	wyld@skdrive.org
Technology related	Mr A Francis-Black	francisblacka@skdrive.org
SEND	Mrs F Slater	slaterf@skdrive.org
Curriculum	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Learning@Home resources	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Personal well being		Tutor or Head of House
General queries		school@skdrive.org
Free School Meals		kilgallond@skdrive.org

MESSAGES

School	Year 7	The childhood flu programme has been extended by the government to include year 7 pupils. It is likely that flu and COVID-19 will both be circulating at the same time, which means that it is more important than ever this year to help protect against flu. The Health Immunisation Team will undertake an immunisation clinic in school on Monday 28 September. An information pack and consent forms will be sent home with students early next week.
Mrs Crocker Designated Safeguard Lead	All years	<p>We are mindful that our students will need increased pastoral care as they return to school following their extended absence. Our students and their families will have had a range of experiences during lockdown ranging from enjoying greater family time to extreme adversity. We have therefore put in place some additional help and support to help us provide support for our students, develop their resilience and self-efficacy.</p> <p>The steps we have taken so far to help us achieve this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater capacity within the pastoral team. I would like to welcome Mr Moore (Deputy Head of House) and Mr Scott (Pastoral Administrator) to St. Katherine's School. They will be working alongside Mrs Grocock in Student Support and Mrs Ball who now becomes Deputy Head of House alongside Mr Moore.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved CCTV coverage and quality - students identified that having more cameras would help them feel more safe at school and we have listened and installed many more cameras around the site. 'Tell someone' is our new reporting facility for any concerns about bullying, abuse, online safety, friendships etc. Anyone can email tellsomeone@skdrive.org or complete the anonymous reporting form on the school website to report their concern. Staff training on the new Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance published at the start of term Staff training on trauma and how to support children who have experienced anxiety or adversity during lockdown. <p>As always, anyone who is worried about a student at St Katherine's must 'tell someone' straight away and parents can contact me at school if they are worried. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.</p>
Mr Maw	All years	<p>We understand that there may have been some difficulties obtaining PE kit over the summer, particularly for children joining us in Year 7. Please let your child's Head of House know if you have been unable to obtain the correct uniform for PE. Timetables are now available on Classcharts so you are able to see the days on which your child should be wearing PE kit to school. Please check this carefully, some year groups have PE on Monday 7 September and should come to school in their PE kit.</p>
Miss Richards	All years	<p>If your child has been issued with a Chromebook to support their learning@home during the period of school closure, please ensure that it is brought back into school upon their return. It should be taken to SSO or the IT office.</p>
Miss Adams	All years	<p>Instrumental lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All instrumental lessons re-start in the week beginning Monday 7 September except flute, clarinet and drums which will begin week commencing 14 September. Timetables have been shared with tutors and will also be emailed to parents. Please note that singing lessons do not currently have a start date due to a change in staffing. Once I have this information I will inform students and parents. Piano lessons will normally be on a Wednesday but for the first two weeks of term will take place on a Friday instead (Fri 11th Sept and Fri 18th Sept). Lessons will then revert to Wednesdays. Any questions about instrumental lessons please email me directly; adamsa@skdrive.org
Miss Jones	All years	<p>We are in the process of changing our communications with you regarding daily absences. Parents/Carers should still contact the attendance line by 7.30am every morning their child is absent from school and explain the reason for absence. However, if we have not received any communication from you and your child has been marked absent from morning sessions, you will now receive an automated text message from Truancy Call asking you to contact the school to explain the reason for absence. You will be able to send a message via the number you receive the text</p>



		from, or alternatively call 01275 373737 and press Option 1 to speak with Georgie Jones our school Attendance Officer.
Mrs Weatherson	Year 11 photography	If students borrowed any photography equipment during the lockdown - or still have equipment for any reason, please can they ensure that they return the equipment when they return. Equipment should be taken to SSO where it can be stored safely and collected by Mrs Weatherson. Once students have given back their equipment they need to email Mrs Weatherson to confirm that it is with SSO.
Mr Fey Mr Simmons	Year 11 Engineering	A reminder that all Engineering students must bring their R107/R108 coursework folders into school for their next timetabled lesson.
Ms Wyld LRC	Years 8 - 11	Please remember to bring any library books back into school. They need to be placed in a pile at the front of your tutor base - your tutor will show you where. These will then be collected, quarantined for 72 hours and made available for borrowing again. Details on how to access our click and deliver service will follow. Library fines will not be charged at present. Please get in touch with me as soon as you can if you think you may have lost or damaged a book so we can discuss replacing it.

LETTERS - click [here](#) to see all letters from this academic year

All year groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bus Service Update ● SEND support at St Katherine's
Year 11	St Katherine's School Uniform Expectations

UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

Tuesday, 8 September	Year 10 vaccinations (boosters cancelled from Year 9)
Wednesday, 9 September	18:00-19:00 - Year 7 Parent/Carer Information Evening
Wednesday, 16 September	18:00-19:00 - Years 8-11 Parent/Carer Information Evening
Saturday, 26 September	Open Day
Monday, 28 September	Year 7 Flu Immunisation Programme

ST KATHERINE'S SCHOOL

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 Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)