

Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School



Headteacher: Ms V Qurrey M.A.

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3 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been really lovely to have our school community together again.

Just a few points about the new term and ongoing routines.

- As you are aware, the school times have changed slightly.
- Pupils are to arrive by 8.40 a.m. via the front entrance of St Mary's Lane. Pupils will be dismissed at 3.15 p.m.
- Bubbles are no longer in use and pupils will be taught in specialist rooms. We are still restricting large groups of pupils beyond one year group (and Sixth Form) in assemblies.
- Face coverings are to be worn in corridors and assemblies and on public transport.
- There are changes to COVID guidelines as under 18s are no longer required to isolate if they have been a close contact. If they are identified, they are encouraged to obtain a PCR test. The only COVID related reason for absence from school now is if a pupil tests positive from a PCR test. Please report any absence via the school gateway app or ringing 01708 222660. Pupils should continue twice weekly lateral flow testing and report the results via this link (the link is also on the school website).

<https://sacredheartofmary.net/corona-virus-communications/>

- As you are aware, vaccinations are available for older pupils. If we have further information on vaccinations for younger pupils, we will inform you as soon as we have that information.
- Although some restrictions are lifted we would really encourage all pupils to be vigilant with '**Hands, Face, Space**'. We hope that things continue to improve over the coming weeks and months so that we can revert to more whole school events. Some extra-curricular activities will be able to begin in a few weeks once risk assessments are completed.

- The government has not ruled out any possibility of remote teaching in the event of a local outbreak of COVID. However, if a pupil has to isolate, they will be able to access work via Google Classroom, but 'live' lessons will not be available.
- Pupils can wear PE kit with leggings on PE days (with their blazer) until half-term when this will be reviewed. Rental lockers should be available at half-term too.
- Pupils can purchase cold food on the ambulatory and hot food in the main canteen. Sixth Form will access their eatery by the Sixth Form Block. We are trialling a timed year group rota to limit queues and congestion in the canteen. Please ensure Sco-Pay accounts have money on them for the purchasing of food.
- Head of Year contact details are below:

Year 7 -	Mrs Presland -	jpresland@mary.havering.sch.uk
Year 8 -	Miss Joyce -	fjoyce@mary.havering.sch.uk
Year 9 -	Ms O'Dwyer -	po'dwyer@mary.havering.sch.uk
Year 10 -	Mrs Alder -	halder@mary.havering.sch.uk
Year 11 -	Miss Munday -	hmunday@mary.havering.sch.uk
Yrs 12/13 -	Mrs Williams -	swilliams@mary.havering.sch.uk
	Miss Holman -	aholman@mary.havering.sch.uk

If you or your child contact staff members, please be aware of our school preference that emails are **not** sent after 6.00 p.m. or before 7.00 a.m. It is important that all the staff are able to have some work/life balance.

- As you are aware, we are currently raising funds for a new minibus. We are overwhelmed with the response. A group of our Year 11 pupils raised over £2,000 with a sponsored walk this week. We are so proud of them and their support for the school and I am so grateful to all of you that have sponsored them and donated money to the Minibus Appeal. If you would like to donate, please click on link below:

<https://app.investmycommunity.com/upminster-convent-ptfa-2617>

If any of you would be able to advise on this purchase due to their experience in this field, we would really appreciate it. Please contact Mrs Jones on kjones@mary.havering.sch.uk

We really hope that we can return to what a usual SHOM looks like soon. Please check the school calendar regularly for events and updates – link below:

<https://sacredheartofmary.net/parents/calendar/>

Once again, thank you for your ongoing care and support.

Yours faithfully

Ms V Qurrey
Headteacher