

Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School



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Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you are enjoying the summer break with your daughter(s).

We are really proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils who achieved some fantastic results. They could not have achieved what they did without the support of the fantastic staff and of the partnership we have with all of you as parents.

The following articles were in the Romford Recorder:

<https://www.romfordrecorder.co.uk/news/education/sacred-heart-upminster-a-level-results-2021-8224282>

<https://www.romfordrecorder.co.uk/news/education/havering-headteachers-celebrate-gcse-results-8233284>

I just wanted to send you a few updates/reminders before the new term starts.

Return Dates

Thursday 2nd September - Year 7 and Year 12 at 8.45am
Food will be available to buy via Sco pay for Year 7

Friday 3rd September - **All year groups - 8.45 am start**

Summer uniform is to be worn.

Food is available

Pupils are to go to the following areas for form time on Friday 3rd September:

Year 7 - E block

Year 8 - D Block (8R A1)

Year 9 - D Block (9R A 10)

Year 10 - A block

Year 11 - D block (downstairs)

Year 12/13 - go to 6th form block for information

Pupils will receive timetables on their return, in Form time periods 1 and 2 on Thursday morning. PE kit is to be worn on PE days until half term. We will reassess the situation then.

Lockers

The new locker installation is delayed until half term. We will give you more details of the locker rentals nearer the time.

Covid measures

As you are aware pupils are now able to access all areas of the school. We will be asking them to wear face coverings in communal areas and can in class too if they wish. Pupils are to wear a face covering in assemblies and on public transport. Parents are to wear face coverings on school site.

As pupils have tested at home many times and to avoid disruption only the new Year 7 pupils will be tested on site.

I am asking that all other **pupils test at home** the day before their return and then twice weekly after that. It is imperative that **results are reported** for the return to school on the form below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOTrIMQ53LZ1ELajbKUvo9e3oCNpnktAF0xLXNyHi8PHATSw/viewform?usp=sf_link

The new guidance regarding isolation comes into force for the new term:

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- *they are fully vaccinated*
- *they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months*
- *they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial*
- *they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons*

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 6 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be

subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

Full guidance is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

As ever the risk assessment is available on the school website.

Amendments may be made to school protocols depending on local or school outbreaks. We will still be encouraging 'Hands, Face and Space' and it is vital that hygiene measures are adhered to. School will continue to have advanced cleaning regimes.

The main focus is on **ventilation**. Each room has been checked for adequate air flow over the summer. Air conditioning uses air from outside rather than recycled air so they can be used to ensure good ventilation. All air conditioning units have been serviced and checked this summer.

Catering

Hot and cold food will continue to be available via a range of outlets in the school. Please ensure that the Sco Pay account has funds for the purchase of food. Food will be available to buy on the first day for Year 7 and Year 12 too.

To minimise crowding in the canteen areas we are trialling that each year group will have an allocated earliest time to come to the canteen. They will not be allowed to access the canteen (unless they have a club early lunch pass) until their allocated time.

St Joseph's Parish

As you may be aware, Fr John Tuohy is leaving St Joseph's parish at the end of August. The thoughts and prayers of the whole school community are with him as he retires. We welcome Fr Michael Halsall to the parish and look forward to celebrating many special times with him.

School Events

Over the last year you have all supported the school community in so many ways. It is so appreciated. We are hoping that this next year will feel more of a 'normal' one and that we will be able to welcome you back to school for a range of evenings and events. We would welcome lots of parents to be part of the PTFA. This group of parents raises a lot of money for the school.

As you are aware the main focus for the next year is to raise funds for a new minibus as for safety reasons, our former trusty buses can no longer be used.

We would love to see many of you at the first **PTFA** meeting on **MONDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER at 6.30pm** at school.

Due to the really positive feedback, Parents Evenings will take place via School Cloud. Due to this we will have at least one opportunity in the year for parents to be in school for a support or information evening bespoke to the year group.

Some dates for the first few weeks are:

Thursday 9th September 2021 - Year 7 Parental Welcome Evening - 6pm
Thursday 16th September 2021 - Year 11 Parental Welcome Evening - 6pm
Monday 20th September 2021 - Year 12 Parental Welcome Evening - 6pm
Thursday 23rd September 2021 - Year 10 Parental Welcome Evening - 6pm
Thursday 30th September 2021 - Year 8 Parental Welcome Evening - 6pm
Year 9 and Year 13 will have parental evenings later in the year.

As these meetings will be arranged to allow distancing between parents, please can only one parent/carer attend. Face coverings will need to be worn (unless exempt) as per the school risk assessment.

Please use the calendar for other events and check it regularly for changes.
<https://sacredheartofmary.net/parents/calendar/>

Please follow key events of the school by following us on Instagram and Facebook.

I am really looking forward to welcoming all the pupils back to school next week.

God Bless

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V Qurrey', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Ms V Qurrey
Headteacher