



RESPECT
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Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School

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Ms K. Smyth Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust that you are all well and safe and that the ordeal of home schooling isn't making you unduly weary. No doubt, we will all be mightily relieved when schools do re-open but until then we will go all out to do our best for our students. In this respect, I must commend you, our parents, for your unstinting efforts in engaging and supporting your sons in their online work. Without your intervention, our task would be truly formidable. As well as helping with home tuition, it has been absolutely delightful to receive from parents the kind words and encouragement that have been delivered to school through email, cards and social media. Indeed, Twitter has hosted some really lovely comments. In the same vein, I would like to share with you a letter I recently received from Steve Reddy, Director Children & Young Peoples Services and Matt Ashton, Director of Public Health. I am publishing it verbatim as I feel it encapsulates the extraordinary selfless spirit that is so representative of the Cardinal Heenan community.

Dear Ms. Smyth,

We wished to commend you, your staff and pupils, on the helpfulness and enthusiasm shown in setting up the covid testing centre at Cardinal Heenan. You were the first school in Liverpool up and running with testing and we wished to thank you for the support you are giving to the citizens of Liverpool.

We have been informed that you were very helpful to our rapid response vehicle and your leadership over this issue is much appreciated. Your staff and students are a credit to the school and to the City. Please pass on our thanks and best wishes to all involved.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Reddy

Director Children & Young Peoples Services

Matt Ashton

Director of Public Health

Thank you to all those who completed the Quality of Education questionnaire. Whilst most responses were complimentary, there were some areas of improvement and we have already begun to address them. If you have any queries whatsoever, please contact school directly and we will endeavour to deal with them.

In terms of the curriculum content, there are some homework tasks being set but they are linked to revision because we must assess and gather evidence of gaps in learning, so that we can report to you as well as building up a portfolio of evidence for when examination grading takes place. Furthermore, some groups have already started to complete formative assessments online. Students need to revise for these hence some teacher comments, like revise and review.

The attendance to online lessons for many classes is 100% but in terms of overall year groups, the figure is nearer 80%. I cannot overemphasize how important it is that your son attends all his classes. We are doing everything we can to ensure your son doesn't fall behind but we need your support. The pastoral team are making contact with parents regarding any lack of engagement. Please ensure that your son is participating. If you need any assistance, please contact your son's head of year.

Parents' evening

We trialed a Sixth Form Parents' Evening this week and it went really well. We received lots of positive and encouraging feedback about the system. Maybe this heralds what the future holds.



We are repeating the same format for the **Year 11 Parents' Evening next Tuesday, 9 February**. The necessary information has been sent out but if it is not to hand, please contact school and we will update you. This is a new system and we now realise that if parents generate an automatic appointment for their son's subjects, it also gives you an appointment with the form tutor and the head of year, which in this instance, is not necessary. We will be deleting the form tutor and year head appointments tomorrow, so please do not worry if you get an alert. For those of you who do want to speak to a member of the pastoral team, we will be holding a **review morning on Friday, 12 February from 8.45am until 12.15pm**. This is an opportunity for parents of **all year groups** to speak to their son's form tutor and if needed the SENCO and head of year. We will be sending out an invitation letter and instructions on how to use the **Schoolcloud**.

For those parents whose child is in actual attendance at school, I have sent out a booking form for the next half term. Please be aware there are **limited places** as all our teachers are teaching the full allocation of lessons and it is predominately non-teaching staff who are running the classrooms. The thinking is, **if your child can stay at home then he should**.

Reminder that we also return to online learning on Monday, 22 February 2021 at the usual time and it is Week B on the timetable.

With the success of the vaccination drive and the effects of the lockdown in driving down the manifestation of the virus, we may soon be rid of this nightmare. I pray for that, and you and your family's continued fortitude in these challenging circumstances.

God bless you.

K. Smyth

K Smyth
Headteacher