



ST. PATRICK'S RC HIGH SCHOOL  
A National Teaching School

30<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am sorry to disturb you in the Christmas holidays but I thought you would want to hear from me to confirm our plans after today's announcements by Gavin Williamson, the Education Secretary, about the changes to the start of term.

Unfortunately, everybody will return to school a week later than planned. Please see the table below to inform you when your child will return to school.

Week Beginning	Children in School	Children Remote Learning at Home
<b>Week 1:</b> Tuesday 5th Jan to Friday 8th Jan <b>(Monday 4th Jan is a staff INSET)</b>	Vulnerable/EHCP/key worker children from Year 7-11	Year 11 (log on to form time on Teams via Google Classroom at 8.30am)
<b>Week 2:</b> Monday 11th Jan to Friday 15th Jan	Vulnerable/EHCP/key worker children from Year 7-10  All of Year 11	Year 7-10 (log on to form time on Teams via Google Classroom at 8.30am)
<b>Week 3 and onwards:</b> Monday 18th Jan	All children in all years return to school	

We have already been in touch with those children who come into the key worker/vulnerable/ECHP categories. We will contact those parents on Monday 4th January, as promised, to give you more information.

Gavin Williamson seemed to suggest there will be no remote learning provided for Years 7-10 whilst they are at home in the first week of term. However, we expect children in these year groups to continue learning by using their knowledge organisers, reading and MathsWatch. We will issue more guidance for this on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

*Amazing things happen here*

Executive Principal : Mr P Murden  
Headteacher : Mrs A Byrne



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— Roman Catholic High School —

OUR LADY & ST JOHN  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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The delay to the start of term is because the government want us to set up mass testing in schools. The aim of the testing is to reduce the number of children and staff who have to isolate for ten days if they come into contact with a person testing positive. We do not know very much about how this will work yet.

Please rest assured we will always make decisions in the interests of our children and staff's health and will always do the right thing to protect them. The mass testing may prove very useful but we will also use our own professional judgement to decide what steps to take when we are informed of a positive case.

So far I feel we have protected children, staff and our wider community well by applying the government guidance sensibly. We will continue to do this and thank parents for their support and positive messages.

Once again I am sorry that things are changing at short notice. Enjoy the rest of the Christmas holidays and I will be in touch via letter and video message mid-way through Monday 4th January to give you more information. Things might have changed by then!

Kind regards

Mrs Byrne

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