



ST MARGARET WARD CATHOLIC ACADEMY



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04A/RevisedGuidance/PJ/LB

23rd October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Important update about our return to school on Tuesday 3 November 2020

May I first of all thank you for your continued help and support of all that we are doing across the school community in keeping your children as safe as possible during these times. I can share with you that as a result of your continued support, our attendance at school for students across all years stands at 94%; which is brilliant in these times and is 6% above the current national average for attendance in schools across the UK.

As we come to the end of the half-term, you will have no doubt seen that Stoke has been placed into Tier 2 restrictions, 'High Alert' as from midnight tonight. We know that this has implications for all of us as we go about our daily lives. This also has implications for everyone across the school community as we return to school on Tuesday 3 November.

In terms of schools, the only real and significant change is centred around the use of face coverings. The government guidance on this is very clear:

- When an area moves to the local COVID alert level 'high' or 'very high', in education settings where Year 7 students and above are educated, face coverings should be worn by adults (staff and visitors) and students when moving around indoors, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is more challenging to maintain.
- It will not usually be necessary to wear face coverings in the classroom, where protective measures already mean the risks are lower, and they may inhibit teaching and learning.

As a result of this update, please find attached to this letter the revised guidance for all students and parents across the school community. This will take effect from when students return to us on Tuesday 3 November 2020.

As always, if you have any questions about the guidance or the attached document, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Mrs. Farrer (hfarrer@smwca.org.uk) for Years 7 to 9 students or with myself (pjohnson@smwca.org.uk) for Years 10 to 13 students.

Can I thank you in advance for your continued support and I wish you all a very safe and restful half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 3 November 2020.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Johnson
Vice Principal

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school.

