



# St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

9 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a good summer; and it has been great to hear of the various trips, visits and experiences of our students as they have returned to us. You will be aware that there has been a degree of uncertainty regarding the COVID scenario that schools would face as students returned from diverse activities, but I am pleased to say that our testing in school has reassured us to a significant degree that our students are keeping themselves safe, and are being responsible in their activities. Our staff continue to test themselves at frequent intervals; and can I ask that you continue to monitor your child for COVID symptoms. The wellbeing of our community continues to be something that needs us to all work together, and to be considerate of one another.

At the start of a new academic year I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that one of the measures we put in place last year in order to reduce large groups of students being concentrated into a single area on the campus was to stagger the end of the day. This proved to be effective and we will be reinstating it from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. From Monday, students in years 7,8 and 9 will finish at 3.10pm and all other students will finish at 3.15pm. We continually review our practices and will inform you should we need to make any changes to this or any other of our COVID measures.

We have not been able to open the school Campus for prospective parents and carers to visit since September 2019, and are therefore delighted at the prospect of hosting our Open Evening on site on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September. In order to allow staff to prepare, and since a number of students will be coming back to support us on the evening, we will be closing the school early as we have done in previous years. This means that school will close at 1.30pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September. We will be operating a grab and go lunch for students who receive free school meals or for those who wish to pre-book a lunch. Students will also be able to take advantage of our break time provision if they would prefer to get food then.

The Freedom Coach will be coming to collect students at 1.50pm and students who need to wait will need to go to the Astroturf, or the Canteen in the event of rain. Should any students wish to remain in school until the end of the day they should inform their tutor. We are always delighted when students return in the evening to support the school and would ask any students that are working in department areas or acting as guides to wear their normal school uniform.

Finally, please can I ask that when collecting your son or daughter you park sensitively. When a neighbour is inconvenienced, the member of staff who has to field the angry phone call is not the person who parked inconsiderately. I ask you on behalf of our neighbours to avoid blocking their driveways. Thank-you in anticipation of your help with this.

This year has begun very well, and we look forward to seeing you at St. Edward's soon.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Antram  
Headteacher