



17<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Year 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are at the end of another half-term, the mornings are becoming lighter, the weather is becoming brighter and we have passed the midpoint of the academic year. This gives us a perfect opportunity to stop and reflect on the past few months as year 7 have now well and truly settled into St. Edward's life.

This term's theme has been "resilience", and they have definitely demonstrated this in abundance. Year 7 as a collective have now achieved a huge 20,712 virtues, with love of learning, curiosity and discernment being at the forefront, a fantastic accomplishment! It has been wonderful to see that Year 7 are now engaging with many of our extra-curricular clubs, attending sport fixtures in netball and football, and many are taking part in learning their lines for the school musical Grease in March.

As a school we are at our most successful when we work alongside yourselves in a partnership and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the school. Your support enables us to continue having high standards of our students; with their uniform, hair, punctuality, behaviour in lessons and beyond. I also want to thank you for your support in meeting the school's COVID requirements; as a result of this we have had some of the lowest COVID levels in school in the area.

From next term, beginning 28<sup>th</sup> March we will be removing the requirement to wear masks, if students still wish to that is fine. We will however be continuing with hand and respiratory hygiene by using hand spray when students enter and leave the classroom and asking students to use tissues to catch coughs and sneezes. We will be ensuring optimum ventilation in classrooms, however this will not mean having windows open for the full hour and therefore coats and jackets will no longer be permitted in lessons.

Also, for the small number of students who are not making positive choices and thus require time in our inclusion room we are making a change going forward to this provision. From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, students who are placed in inclusion will have their day extended until 15:45 where they will continue to work on lesson content, or revision. This additional 30 minutes will also serve as an opportunity for staff, where appropriate, to have a restorative meeting with students ahead of their next lesson, to reflect on the reason for removal and facilitate a fresh start.

I would also like to just remind students to adhere to the highway code and consider road safety when exiting and entering the school. It is noticeable that more students who cycle to school are not taking the necessary care and attention, when entering the school drive from Dale Valley Road; this has resulted in a few near misses. Those who walk into school should also refrain from using their mobile phone on crossing the road and entering the school driveway; again, students have been observed stepping into the path of oncoming vehicles whilst texting.

Please can I also ask parents and carers to be sensitive to our neighbours when parking. School staff have been involved in difficult situations with our neighbours when they have been inconvenienced by parents collecting their child. Please help us to maintain our good relations with our immediate neighbours.



# St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

Lastly, next half term the virtue of focus will be that of *forgiveness*: A challenging virtue, but one that can be powerful in finding peace and the freedom to move forwards after sometimes finding ourselves in a difficult position.

Finally, I wish you your family a restful holiday, and we look forward to welcoming our students back to school on the Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, week B.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Collette Morgan  
Director of Learning Year 7

