



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust



St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year from all of the staff at St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy, we hope you and your family have had an enjoyable break. As a school community we have begun Spring Term under the direction of new Senior Leadership and want to take this opportunity to introduce our Executive Headteacher and Head of School as well as sharing a number of updates with you.

Senior Leadership Update

Following the departure of Mrs Shepherd Headteacher at the end of Autumn Term, Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust have appointed Mrs Craik as Executive Headteacher and Mrs Hammill as Head of School. The relationship with our families is incredibly important to us and we will shortly be sharing a video with families so that Mrs Craik and Mrs Hammill can introduce themselves to you, below is an introductory welcome message from them both.

Mrs Craik: Executive Headteacher

It is an honour and a great privilege to be the new Acting Executive Headteacher of St Anthony's. My role is the strategic lead and I hold the statutory responsibility for the school. I am also the Acting Executive Headteacher for St Wilfrid's RC College in South Shields; another outstanding secondary school within Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust.

I wish to reassure you whilst the leadership structure has changed at St Anthony's, the mission of the school has not. We are as committed as ever to ensuring your child experiences an outstanding level of education which caters for their needs both academically, pastorally and spiritually. I firmly believe that every student can be the best version of themselves and fulfil their true God given potential through encouragement, mutual respect, a commitment to learn and by meeting our high behavioural expectations. I have already been so very impressed with the conduct and the attitude of the vast majority of students, and am looking forward to supporting them all to develop further, succeed and flourish in what is a very special and treasured community.

Mrs Hammill: Head of School

I am delighted to be joining the community of St. Anthony's as Head of School. My role is the daily responsibility for the leadership and management of the school. I am absolutely committed to working with staff, students, families and governors to ensure our school continues to support students in becoming the person God is calling them to be and provides students with an excellent standard of pastoral care and academic learning. It has been a pleasure to meet staff and students this week and I am looking forward to further strengthening our relationship with our families.

Covid- 19

We fully appreciate there is an ever-changing picture regarding Covid-19 and our intention is to continue to be clear and timely in our communication with families regarding Covid-19 measures in school so that you continue to feel reassured that keeping students and staff safe is of paramount importance.

Covid 19: learning for students who are isolating

If your child is isolating for reasons related to Covid, we will provide work for them to complete at home. Work for the lessons will be either uploaded onto FROG by the class teacher or will be emailed to your child's school email address. It is expected that students who are isolating will complete the work provided during their normal lesson time. Staff will also provide the opportunity for students to log into the lesson remotely through Teams where this is possible however the vast majority of remote learning for isolating students is via FROG. Where students test positive for Covid, it is expected that they will complete the work set if they are well enough to do so. If they are unwell, then they will catch up with the work once they have recovered, as they would do with any illness.

If students require support with work while isolating, then they should email their teacher as soon as possible. It is Academy policy that all students must use their school email for communication with staff and staff will not respond to any personal email addresses. It is also important that email communication between staff and students can only take place during normal working hours so it is therefore vital that requests for support are made during this time.

Full information can be found at the following links:

Parents:

<https://st-anthonys-academy.com/parents/information-for-parents-regarding-accessing-work-during-covid-isolation/>

Students:

<https://st-anthonys-academy.com/students/accessing-work-during-covid-isolation/>

Parents' Evenings

The current Covid-19 situation means that face-to-face Parents' Evenings are not currently possible. We are aware how much parents and carers appreciate these valuable conversations so we are going to adjust the timings and format of the remaining Parents' Evenings for this academic year so that we can ensure a virtual format is in place. We are aware this is short notice for our Year 7 and Year 8 families who would have had a Parents' Evenings in the next couple of weeks but hope that by moving to this new virtual format the quality of communication will really support students and parents/carers.

We will be moving to a Virtual Parents' Evening for Year groups 7, 8, 9 & 10 all of whom have yet to have a Parents' Evening this academic year. We will be sending further information about how to access the on-line Parents' Evening prior to each event.

The new dates are:

Year 7	7 th July 2022
Year 8	23 rd March 2022
Year 9	8 th March 2022
Year 10	10 th May 2022

The Year 9 Parents' Evening will be preceded by an Information Evening about Year 9 options on Monday 7th March 2022.

Behaviour and Attitudes:

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain our high standards and expectations with regards to behaviour, in line with our Home-School Agreement. Having a positive attitude towards school life is crucial to your child's success and the majority of our students are fantastic and work extremely hard. To ensure a good start to the school day students must be on site by 8.25am, ready for registration at 8.30am. Students must have the necessary books and equipment for lessons, including the student planner. This is an important means of communication between home and school and needs to be checked and signed weekly by parents/carers. If you have any concerns or questions about your child's work or behaviour, please do not hesitate to contact their form tutor via the planner.

Students are expected to be in full uniform in line with our uniform policy and we thank families for your full support with this. On days when they have a PE lesson, students should wear the Academy official PE kit. A black or navy coat and scarf may be worn in cold weather and this should be removed indoors. Hair must be of a natural colour and should be tied up at all times. Make up, including nail varnish and false nails, and jewellery/ piercings are not permitted. Where students do not meet our expectations staff will support them in rectifying uniform issues and sanctions may be given including detention or time in isolation until the uniform issue is rectified.