



St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

A Mercy Academy committed to excellence

Mrs F. Craik
Acting Executive Headteacher

Mrs C. Hammill
Acting Head of School

Sr. M. Josepha
Chair of Governors

St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy, Thornhill Terrace, Sunderland SR2 7JN.
Telephone 0191 565 8904 Email enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com
www.st-anthonys-academy.com Twitter @st_anthonys3

Friday 18th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

With the easing of pandemic restrictions and the significantly improved infection rates in Sunderland we are at a point where we will continue to actively adhere to government guidance regarding hand hygiene and ventilation but can fully resume our usual school routines and activities. From Monday 28th February students and staff will no longer be required to wear face coverings.

This week we completed our first whole-school evacuation drill since the pandemic restrictions began: our students were excellent in responding to the instructions of staff and the drill was completed in a calm and timely manner.

As we reach the end of this half-term, we would like to wish all of our students and staff a safe and peaceful break as we take this time to recharge and spend time with our families. Students in Year 11 and Sixth-Form will also be spending time on focused revision preparation for the upcoming internal mock examination period and staff have supported students with revision materials and resources, please see the information below regarding this. We ask you to particularly keep students in our examination classes in your thoughts and prayers.

Lent

When we return after half-term we will be marking the liturgical season of Lent by celebrating Ash Wednesday together as a community. Our Chaplaincy team and students will be leading the Ash Wednesday liturgy and there will be an opportunity for all to receive ashes. As we move into the Lenten season we will also be supporting Cafod's Lenten campaign. We are also going to be supported by our priests in offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation to staff and students, further information to follow.

Uniform Standards

As we have been communicating with our students and families, after the half-term break students will return to wearing full school uniform on a daily basis. Please follow this link to access information from our P.E. department which includes reminders about our standards for P.E. kit: <https://st-anthonys-academy.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PE-Department-Letter-Kit.pdf>



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Can parents and carers please check their child's timetable with them and ensure they have their P.E. kit in school on the days where P.E. lessons are timetabled. As with all aspects of uniform, if any of our families require assistance with purchasing uniform we are here to help, please contact Mrs Lanaghan (Deputy Headteacher Pastoral) for confidential support by emailing: enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com

We fully recognise the importance of our home-school relationship and the support from parents and carers for our shared values. As we move ahead into the next half-term we will be working with students to strengthen our culture of high expectations and respectful relationships with one another. We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your full support with our high expectations regarding uniform and ask that you remind your child that the following standards must be met:

- No make-up.
- No false/acrylic/gel/varnished nails.
- No jewellery.

Relationships, Health and Sexual Education

Please read the letter attached to our weekly update from Mrs Hoey PSHE Coordinator which contains information regarding our provision of the statutory requirements regarding RHSE including our approach to this as a Catholic school. We will be offering students and families an opportunity to share feedback regarding provision, more information to follow soon.

Covid Update

In line with recent government advice, and in response to falling local rates, face coverings will no longer be required in school. We have made some updates to our risk assessment which you can find on our website or by following this link. [Covid Risk Assessment](#). We will continue to update and amend our practices in line with regional and national advice.

How to support your child with revision

Revision help for Year 13

As you will be aware from previous correspondence Year 13 students will be starting mock examinations after half term. The mock timetable can be found here (www.aasixthform.com/year-13-mock-timetable-february-march-2022/). In order to support your child we have a comprehensive revision and support timetable in place.



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We have also produced a short video presentation on effective revision techniques; aimed at all Sixth Form students as well as a short video aiming at helping parents know how they can support their Sixth Form student with revision. These videos and the revision at support timetable can be found here (www.aaasixthform.com/year-13-revision-videos/). We are aware that these are the first public examination that year 13 students have faced and we hope that these resources will help ensure they do as well as possible. For further advice and guidance, please contact Mrs Helen Smith (Director of Sixth Form) Helen.Smith@st-anthonys-academy.com

Revision help for Year 11

Year 11 will also be beginning their mock examinations on Monday 7th March which will run through to Friday 25th March. The mock exam timetable can be found here <https://st-anthonys-academy.com/year-11-mock-schedule-march-2022/>. In order to support your child with their revision we have a dedicated Y11 Revision area on Teams which can be found here:

<https://stanthonysunderland.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/Year11RevisionArea/Empu4LQYJz9PtTaxehJaHngBcZ3stwQRijkFOg7oeMOZwQ?e=7ZnLNJ>. Here they will find support with revision planning, evidence-based techniques and subject-specific revision support materials. All of Year 11 have also been provided with a pack of materials to support their revision. These packs contain revision timetables and information on the journey towards the summer exams. It is really important that students achieve a good balance of revising effectively and taking time to relax and stay healthy. We wish them all the best of luck for the upcoming mocks.

World Book Day

World Book Day is approaching on Thursday 3rd March. There will be a number of events and competitions going on around the school, both in and out of lessons to celebrate the event. World Book Day is important in promoting reading for pleasure and we hope students will get involved. Regular reading can benefit our mental health and can help strengthen students' ability to access exams and assessments. This year, we will have an overarching theme: **strong women in literature**. There will be World Book Day activities to complete during lessons, including a short story being read over the course of the day. We are also running competitions across all year groups, with book voucher prizes available! In form time, there will be reading tasks taking place all week and competitions such as dressing up your form room door as a book cover. In the library, there will also be events and competitions running all week for different year groups on a lunch time.



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Mock Examinations

Mock examinations begin immediately after half term. Year 13 run 28th February to 11th March and Year 11 start on 7th March, but with the bulk of the exams between 14th March and 25th March.

Timetables are available online.

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