



# St Bede's Catholic High School

St Anne's Road, Ormskirk, L39 4TA Telephone: (01695) 570335 Fax: (01695) 571686

Website: [www.sbchs.co.uk](http://www.sbchs.co.uk) Email: [admin@sbchs.co.uk](mailto:admin@sbchs.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. P. Denton BA (Hons), MA, NPQH, NPQEL

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2022

## Return to school January 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year to, I hope you had time to be with family and friends while we celebrated the Christmas season.

Many of you will have also found this time of year difficult as we have had personal losses amongst our community, especially over the last couple of years. You have all been in our thoughts and prayers.

We look forward to seeing all of our students return tomorrow morning, January 4<sup>th</sup>, at the usual time.

### COVID Update

Yesterday morning we received an [email](#) from the Department for Education detailing some measures for schools when we return tomorrow. This advice includes the following key points we all need to be aware of:

- Wearing of masks is encouraged in classrooms and circulation areas again to reduce the spread of Omicron. We will be requesting this of all students until this guidance is reviewed on January 26th.
- 7,000 new air cleaning units are being made available nationally. We will apply for as many as possible following the initial delivery to Special schools.
- All children 12 and over are encouraged to go for the vaccination.
- All adults in the school community are encouraged to go for their vaccinations and booster.
- Schools are directed to undertake 1 test although we will undertake 2 in week 1. Thereafter we will continue daily testing of year groups.
- The 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances unless you cannot test for any reason. Please refer to Government guidance.
- Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results, at least 24 hours apart, are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation.
- People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.
- The focus is on maintaining face-to-face teaching.

I would urge all students to take a lateral flow test prior to coming into school on Tuesday. We will test all students during registration and shortly after prior to students beginning lessons. We continue to be extremely grateful to our Support teams and the School Pastors for their continued support.

Our rates of infection prior to Christmas were extremely low which is positive. However, we will be revising our risk assessment this week and taking any additional measures within our power to keep the school environment as safe as possible.

### Looking forward to 2022

Despite the continuing challenges of COVID, we continue to develop as a school and 2022 brings many exciting opportunities. We have a full programme of extra-curricular activities detailed in the Head's blogs. We will be developing our involvement in the Global School Alliance, working towards awards in Mental Health, our Arts Programmes & the World Class Schools Network. Our curriculum continues to be enhanced so that it encourages the development of GRITTY skills in every student. Our ['Make Talk Your Goal'](#) programme will be complimented by a girl's programme which will continue our work around the wellbeing of our students. In short, our committed teaching and support staff will continue to work toward our ambitious vision for your children.

Please do contact school if you have any questions ([admin@sbchs.co.uk](mailto:admin@sbchs.co.uk)) and we will do our best to get back to you over the course of the week.

Thank you as ever for your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Denton', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr P Denton,  
Headteacher