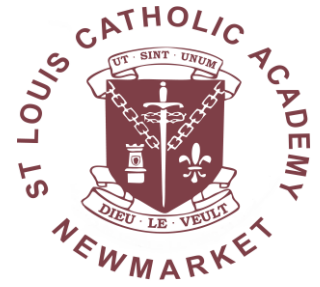




St. Louis Catholic Academy  
Fordham Road  
Newmarket  
Suffolk  
CB8 7AA

Head of School: Mr Nick Kerin  
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Clare Clark

01638 662719



11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents

I write following the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday of a phased plan to beat the virus and provide a road map for re-opening society. This may lead to an easing of the restrictions that have been put in place to minimise the spread of COVID-19 in relation to schools. We all recognise that this has been a very stressful time for young people and their families. I am sure we are all looking forward to children returning to school when it is safe for this to happen. Schools will be following government guidance, as soon as it is released, to enable this. The Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Trust, Local Authority and the Diocese, will help and support individual school leaders to make the necessary arrangements.

Our top priority is the safety of pupils, their families and school staff. Every school's circumstances are unique. Schools will not be able to respond to the Government's decisions in the same way. For some schools, the size of classrooms and play areas may limit the number of children who can be accommodated safely under social distancing rules. In others, staffing shortages may limit the speed at which pupils can return. Some of the services that children and parents are used to, such as school meals and breakfast clubs, may not be available immediately in every school. Schools may not be able to teach every subject, if teaching time is limited.

We are awaiting further advice from the Department for Education and schools will need time to plan. We will work as quickly as we can to make the necessary arrangements and will communicate those arrangements to parents as soon as we are able to. To support school at this time, please try not to make contact with us about re-opening arrangements unless your enquiry is an urgent one. We continue to welcome children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils in line with national guidance but capacity will be limited especially with more people returning to work. We will also continue to provide support for home learning until guidance for doing so changes. Please be assured that, further to the announcement last night, both school and the OLW Catholic Trust, will communicate with you as quickly as possible.

Yours faithfully

Clare Clark  
Executive Headteacher

