



# St Edward's Catholic Academy

Headteacher: Mrs J E McQuillan BA (hons)  
Telephone: 01283 216721

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you're all staying safe and keeping well.

For those of you whose children are learning remotely, we would like to thank you again for all that you are doing to support and assist your children with their home learning. Whilst you may worry that you are not teaching in the "right way" or in the same way that your child's teacher may do it, please be reassured that we understand this completely. Any learning your child does at home, in whatever way they manage to do it, will benefit your child hugely and keep them on the right track for when we return to face-to-face teaching. Whether it is done in small chunks or all-in-one-go, it is more important that they are engaging with the work set and communicating with their teacher on a regular basis. Please continue to contact your class teacher if you have any issues with home learning.

## **Key Worker and Vulnerable Provision**

Just a quick reminder that although school remains open, it is only for children of Key Workers and vulnerable pupils. The Government has clarified its advice to state that Key Worker parents and carers "**should keep their children at home if they can.**" We can all continue to play our part in stemming the escalating cases of this virus; *Stay Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives*

If you wish to cancel any provision please email [office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk)

**IMPORTANT:** From next week the government is introducing regular lateral flow testing for primary staff. Please be advised that if a member of staff receives a positive result from the lateral flow test that 'Bubble' will be closed pending the result of a PCR test. Once we receive the result of the PCR test you will be informed if your child is required to self-isolate or if they can return to school. Details of individual test results will not be released.

If your child is unwell or is no longer attending on a certain day you must telephone school before 9am. Thank you.

Please remember to wear a mask and maintain social distancing from others at all times when on the school grounds.

Children who are attending school may wear non uniform but clothing and footwear must be appropriate for PE or outdoor sports. Thank you.

If you, or any member of your household develops any COVID symptoms at any time, everyone in the household must self-isolate for 10 days and the affected person(s) must go for a COVID test. School must be kept informed of any students who test positive, **whether they are in school or not**, as we need to report these to the local authority.



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St Edward's Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Newhall Road, Swadlincote, DE110BD  
[office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk)  
Company Number 7937154



St Ralph  
Sherwin  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



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**It is important that you update the school office immediately if you change your contact details, as we need to be able to contact you at short notice, if necessary.**

## **Free Vodafone SIM cards**

We have received a quantity of Vodafone SIM cards which can be used in any old mobile phones or tablets that have the capability to access the internet. These can transform old equipment into usable devices with which your child can access remote learning. They are 30GB of data and last for up to 90 days. Please email the school office on [office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@stedwardscatholicacademy.co.uk) if you are interested in receiving a SIM card.

## **Remote Learning Protocol**

Thank you to everyone who supports remote learning at home. As recommended, we have drawn together some protocols that we would ask you to support regarding online learning. This has been sent with the email but is also available on our website, in the 'Remote Learning' section. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact school.

## **Safeguarding and Child Protection**

Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy has been updated with an additional appendix to reflect the current lockdown situation. It can be found on our website, click [here](#). If you have any concerns regarding Child Protection please contact our Designated Safeguarding Leads in school: Mrs McQuillan; Mrs Methven or Mrs Cashmore. If your concern is urgent please contact Derbyshire Starting Point on 01629 533190

## **Twitter**

Please follow us on Twitter at @StEdwardsSwad where we will be posting much more content in the near future.

## **Well-Being Wednesday**

With good mental health and well-being being so important to us all during this lockdown period, we are excited to announce our new initiative... "Well-Being Wednesday"!! The aim of this is to try to cut down on your child's screen time every Wednesday afternoon. On these afternoons we will set Art and other practical activities for our learning on Class Dojo. This work will involve children working away from the screen (laptop/phone/tablet) for that hour and the challenge then is to try to encourage them to extend this time for the whole afternoon. Some activity suggestions during this time are jigsaws, colouring, board games, dressing up and cooking. We look forward to hearing about what activities the children enjoy doing during this "down time".

Kind regards

J E McQuillan



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