



The McAuley Catholic High School and Sixth Form

An 11 – 18 Voluntary Academy in the Diocese of Hallam

Headteacher: John Rooney

Chair of Governors: Dr Pat Hurley

Home remote learning days

Last week it was reported that 375,000 children in both primary and secondary schools were isolating. Alongside the impact of bubble closures on parents and carers including school staff, track and trace also continues to inform and require self-isolation.

Unfortunately, in Doncaster we are seeing increasing numbers of positive Covid-19 cases hand in hand with increased requirements for staff and pupils to self-isolate. On top of this, due to an increasing number of confirmed cases and with over 30% of the year group self-isolating, we have reluctantly just made the decision to close the Y10 bubble again. There is a steady increase in other year groups too. As of today, we have 22 members of staff self-isolating at home for the entirety of the week. Although there are no confirmed cases amongst our staff but there is a realistic chance this number will rise as the week progresses.

We are in a situation where staff in school are being increasingly used to cover or supervise these lessons. Whilst normally we would expect this, we are at a point where pupils are being supervised by non-specialist teachers for multiple lessons each day and throughout the week.

To manage this unsatisfactory situation, we will be asking individual year groups to **work from home** from tomorrow **as follows**;

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 6th July | Year 9 work at home |
| Wednesday 7th July | Year 8 work at home |
| Thursday 8th July | Year 7 work at home |
| Friday 9th July | all Y7, 8 and 9 in school |

(This may be subject to change as events are moving exceptionally quickly).

Work will be set for every lesson and pupils should follow their usual school timetable. This will allow all pupils isolating to be taught online by their own teachers; far more meaningful than supervision by non-specialists in school. This also puts all those pupils in each year group forced to isolate already on an equal footing. Students should attend as normal on other days.

Whilst far from ideal there was a sincere hope that we would not be in the situation of having to make this sort of arrangements again.

Throughout the course of the last two years we have really improved our online curriculum and pupils, as well as staff, are much more comfortable with this way of working.

We will make a decision at the end of the week about arrangements for next week.

Once again, I find myself in an impossible situation, but I can only thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

John Rooney
Headteacher



"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

The McAuley Catholic High School is an exempt charity. Company Number 08936511
Registered in England & Wales

Cantley Lane, Doncaster, DN3 3QF 01302 537396