

AllSaints
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Terling Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 1JT

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www.allsaintsschool.co.uk

Head Teacher:

Clare Cantle. BSc (Hons). MA(ed)

CCA/MH

14th September 2021

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

Each year in September I write to reiterate some key points that are in our policies. I am incredibly proud of our school community and as a school we work tirelessly to make this an outstanding community in every respect. I will defend and protect our community from negative external interference and will not tolerate any behaviour or actions that fall below our high expectations. As a result of this approach we have a happy and harmonious community. This has and remains an unusual time for all. Clarity of communication from the school is key. We ask that you read all areas addressed in this letter and ensure you understand all information contained in it.

All relevant and statutory information and policies are on our website.

I will highlight some key points.

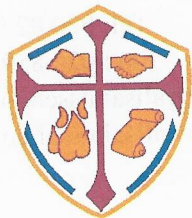
Uniform - Our uniform requirements were sent out at the end of the summer school term as a reminder. Students look incredibly smart and I am grateful to the vast majority of parents that adhere to this and are extremely supportive. There are no exceptions to the uniform and sixth form dress code.

Attendance – Our attendance target is 98%. As ever we are ambitious for our young people. In this time of Covid, periods of isolation may occur for your child and family. We understand this is unavoidable and work will be sent home for children who have to isolate. This absence would be in line with Public Health England's recommendations. I have circulated the term dates for the academic year well in advance. I will not authorise holidays in term time. Holiday's in term time are disruptive to your child's education and may lead to the absence not being authorised and resulting in a penalty notice being issued by the local authority. If your child is absent you must ring 0208 270 4242 Ext. 1336 on the first day of absence and every subsequent day of absence. Leave of absence requests are to come directly to me with the completed form. Where there is a genuine cause for leave of absence from school I will respond accordingly. In addition all other routine appointments should be arranged outside of school time.

Punctuality – From Year 7 – 13 it is important that pupils arrive ready to learn. Lateness is unacceptable as it impacts on lessons and learning. Please ensure that your child leaves home in sufficient time to arrive on time.

Mobile phones – are not to be seen in school. I understand that you may wish your child to have one for their personal safety/contact reasons. If your child has a mobile phone, they must turn it off as they enter the school gates and the phone is to be kept in their blazer. If a phone is seen in school we will confiscate it and ask you to collect it. Mobile phones are not to be used in anyway in school (making calls, texting, taking photos/videos). If a child does need to contact a parent urgently this will be done in the school office and the same for parents needing to contact their child urgently.





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Commute to and from school – students are to wear full school uniform to and from school. In wearing their uniform they are representing our school community. Conduct that brings our school in to disrepute will be dealt with in accordance with our Behaviour Policy. It is important that pupils go straight home after school and do not hang around shops and fast food outlets. Pupils from All Saints are not permitted to use McDonalds after school as outlined in my letter in previous years. Senior staff are out at the school gates every morning and evening and are at bus stops to ensure pupils are safe.

In our **Anti-Bullying Policy** it is clear that we have a zero tolerance of bullying of any kind. If any parent or pupil is concerned about any issue please do contact us. Rest assured it will be dealt with promptly and discretely. We see regularly in the media there is much talk about the negative use of social media. We will continue to work with students to ensure E-safety. Malicious communications on any social media platform will be reported to the police. However, I ask that parents monitor and advise your children on the negative use of social media and legal the implications of this.

Positive relationships with our school and with the local community have been formed over the many years All Saints has been in existence. Violence of any kind will not be tolerated. Possession of an offensive weapon, an object modified to be used as a weapon, or the use of anything as a weapon will result in permanent exclusion. The same sanction applies to the possession of alcohol, drugs and legal highs e.g. nitrous oxide canisters. It is important that all have a very clear understanding of these points and the consequences of such conduct. Student and parental surveys are amazingly positive about the school and the safe environment we have created. This is something to be celebrated and protected. I will protect and advise pupils as if they were my own and I trust you appreciate my intentions in highlighting these points.

I thank you whole heartedly for your ongoing support of the work done at All Saints Catholic School and we look forward to another highly successful academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Cantle

Headteacher