

# St. Gregory's Catholic High School

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Telephone: 01925 574888



## Headteacher

**Mr E McGlinchey BSc (Hons) NPQH & NPQEL**

Our ref; CMcK/SH  
15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## End of term letter – Part 2

I hope you and your family are keeping well as we approach the end of term. I write this letter as a reminder of some of the important parts of school life that you as parents and carers can support us with. This letter also provides information about support networks that are available to our families.

## Mental Health & Well-Being Support

We would like to thank all parents and carers who attended our 'Anxiety Management' workshops that were aimed at informing parents to help their children. The feedback from you has been incredibly positive.

During the Christmas period some people may find that they become overwhelmed with the challenges to make it 'a perfect Christmas.' If you or any other member of your family feels that they need support you may find the following websites useful:

- MIND: <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
- NSPCC: [https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/ways-to-give/donate/?source=ppc-brand&gclid=Cj0KCQiA2af-BRDzARIsAIVQUOdXIMYxtorSGUDeI\\_ZPTfsJvst5kuOnVPwmkS-74rpu-ddQhxkR5yXgaAnGuEALw\\_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/ways-to-give/donate/?source=ppc-brand&gclid=Cj0KCQiA2af-BRDzARIsAIVQUOdXIMYxtorSGUDeI_ZPTfsJvst5kuOnVPwmkS-74rpu-ddQhxkR5yXgaAnGuEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds)
- Samaritans: <https://www.samaritans.org/>

In addition to this, children may have new devices or spend more time on their technology. Whilst the internet can be extremely useful in keeping us connected and informed, we also know that, if not monitored correctly, children can be in danger when using the internet. For support and advice on privacy settings or how to keep children safe online the following website may be useful:

[A parent's guide to privacy settings \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Finally, SWGfl has information regarding a new family pairing feature for TikTok as well as a social media checklist to support parents. <https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/tiktok-update-parental-controls-with-family-pairing-feature/>

## National Online Safety

We are delighted to see so many parents have signed up to National Online Safety to access courses, webinars and the latest updates to keep your child safe online. If you have not done so yet please follow the link and log on as a parent.

*One family... inspired to learn.'*

SEAL *it with* RESPECT

Fax: 01925 243 816

Email: [schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com](mailto:schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com)

Website: [www.stgregoryshigh.com](http://www.stgregoryshigh.com)

St. Gregory's R.C. High School Appeal Trust. A REGISTERED CHARITY



### **Standards of uniform**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting St Gregory's in ensuring that all children are wearing the correct uniform. Over the course of the term we have seen some pupils standards of uniform drop. Should you need to replace any items over the Christmas holiday please be mindful of our uniform policy which can be found on our website. Trainers and boots are not permitted; likewise, the only jumper pupils are allowed to wear under their blazer is the school jumper.

### **Banned Items**

I would like to make you aware of the use of a vape/e-cigarette/e-liquids. I am sure you are aware of the rise in popularity of vaping amongst young people today – these highly dangerous items are deliberately marketed towards children with flavours, designs and child like names, they are also being sold in shops illegally to minors. Please be aware that it is illegal to purchase vapes, e-cigarettes or e-liquids from any shop or online store if you are under the age of 18 and they are banned items as listed in our Behaviour for Learning Policy and our Exclusion Policy.

St Gregory's behaviour for learning policy states that:

*Incidents which would be considered as serious and hence result in the higher level sanctions being employed might include:*

- *Possession or misuse of substances which may be either illegal or not allowed in school (including alcohol, solvents, tobacco, some prescription medicines, illegal drugs, e-cigarettes)*

Whilst our Exclusion Policy states:

*Exclusion whether fixed term or permanent may be used for any of the following, all of which constitute examples of unacceptable conduct, and are infringements of St Gregory's Catholic High School's Behaviour for Learning Policy:*

*Possession or misuse of substances which may be either illegal or not allowed in school (including alcohol, solvents, tobacco, some prescription medicines, illegal drugs, e-cigarettes)*

With this in mind, please can I ask that you take time to ensure your child understands that bringing a vape into school is a serious breach of our behaviour policy and may result in the most serious of sanctions. This will be communicated this with pupils during collective worship and form time also.

### **Face Coverings & Keeping our community safe**

It has been pleasing that we have been able to complete a full term at St Gregory's High School without the need to send 'bubbles' home. I would like to thank you for **supporting us with this through providing face coverings for your child** and ensuring that they carry out regular lateral flow tests. Not all children are arriving to school with their own face covering and this is creating issues for the school in supplies of temporary face covering stock.

If you need any further support or advice, the Safeguarding page of our Website has links to many agencies who can offer support.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

God bless,

Mrs McKenna