



## ***Principal's Welcome***

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Staff

Welcome to the Term 1 Newsletter of the 2020-21 Academic Term – we hope you like the updated format.

The word “unprecedented” has been used extensively to describe our current situation and although I may be at risk of verging towards hyperbole, I would suggest that “totally unprecedented” may be more apt!

Since our return in September, I have been amazed at our pupils’ resilience and determination to get back into something akin to normality. Please thank each and every one of them for their efforts. Although we have had a few bumps in the road at the end of a long and tiring first stint, they really do deserve to be commended for picking up where they left off in March and engaging so positively.

Due to the current context, our first Newsletter has slightly fewer details than normal about our extensive extra-curricular programme. Nevertheless, it contains many important messages to parents and carers, so I would be grateful for you taking some time to read it carefully and discussing with your child where relevant.



Principal  
Mr J Cornish

## ***Covid 19 Updates***

Throughout the last few months, we have all been used to having more and more guidance released to us regarding Covid 19. I appreciate this is often overwhelming and will, therefore, keep our messaging deliberately succinct.

On a day to day basis, please ask your child to:

1. Follow the guidance on self-isolating if they or a member of their household is unwell
2. Maintain social distance wherever possible
3. Ensure good hand and respiratory hygiene



Please remember that we have switched Year 8 & Year 9 zones in order to facilitate Year 8 benefitting from dedicated Science labs for Term 2. [Please read the letter here.](#)

**\*\*STUDENTS MUST STAY IN THEIR ZONES & SOCIALLY DISTANCE WHERE POSSIBLE\*\***

We appreciate that social distancing is challenging in schools, but we do need your support in this. Please ask your child not to hug others!

Regarding facemasks, please remember that our position is for students to be able to wear these if they wish.

Finally, please be assured that we are following all of the relevant guidance and whilst we appreciate it is an anxious time, pupils must attend school unless otherwise informed.

## ***Staffing***

As ever, it has been a busy term regarding staffing at the Academy. I am pleased to inform you that the new staff who joined us in September have made a very positive start.

I am also pleased to let you know that we have recently appointed a new Vice Principal, Mr James Purkis, who will join us in January 2021. Mr Purkis and his family have recently moved to Weymouth from London and are looking forward to being part of our community.

It is with a heavy heart that we say good bye to Ms Burnett this term. Ms Burnett has served at All Saints for 17 years and has, throughout that time, proved to be a most resilient and dedicated colleague. Her work as our cover teacher has meant that students have benefited from a familiar face when lessons have needed cover. I am also particularly grateful to Ms Burnett for her work in the Maths department where she has often taken classes for a longer period of time. We would like to wish her all the very best as she moves into retirement.

## ***Uniform Reminders***

Pupils need to keep warm, particularly as winter approaches since we are still obliged to ventilate the building with fresh air as per the Department for Education advice to reduce the possible spread of coronavirus.

Pupils should wear either a plain black V neck jumper or a branded PE jumper to keep warm.

They do not need to wear a blazer if they have PE but they should wear a coat everyday as the weather grows colder.



In Term 2 we will issue letters to parents and carers and will be using a uniform sticker in planners so that you are fully informed about uniform infringements. Please support us in keeping your child smart and ready to learn.

Please remind pupils that hoodies and branded sweatshirts are NOT permitted and will be confiscated.

## ***Free School Meals***

Please remember to register if you believe you are, or become, entitled to free school meals for your child. See the link below for requirements. The academy receives funding to support your child's education in this case. The canteen has a varied menu for all, but please still apply even if you prefer to provide a packed lunch for your child.

From 1 April 2018, all existing free school meals claimants will continue to receive free school meals whilst Universal Credit is rolled out. Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, expected in March 2022, existing claimants will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education (i.e. primary or secondary).

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals.aspx>

## ***Parent Governor***

We are looking for volunteer parents to help us on our improvement journey by joining our local governing board which is called our Academy Advisory Committee. The committee's main objectives are to provide support and challenge to the school, ensure that all pupils receive a high-quality education and to plan for future development and improvement. This vital role is to ensure the committee is aware of the views of parents and the local community.

We have two Parent Governor vacancies on this newly established committee. You do not need specific qualifications but must be willing to play an active part in the committee's work including meeting once per term and participating in school life.

If you have the skills we need and want to help us developing and improving at All Saints we would welcome your application, to be received by 3 November 2020. Full details are available via the governance section of our website: <https://allsaints.dorset.sch.uk/academy-advisory-committee/>.



## Rewards

We have seen some fantastic work this term from students for living out our vision and values – here are some of our photos for Student of the Week!



This term, we have also introduced a Principal's Breakfast to reward those students who have high achievement points and attendance. Well done to those of you who were recently invited! Please visit our social media feed for pictures!  
<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsChurchofEnglandAcademy/>

Finally, regarding rewards, we have sent home a number of certificates that have been previously earned. Well done everyone and please keep working hard!



## ***Site Entry and Front Gates***

Pupils should not be on site before 8:30am. Parents must not drive onto the school site.

When we return, our Portland Road and Sunnyside Road gates will be closing earlier than they have been in order to keep the site safe, as per the direction of the Ofsted Inspection Team in September 2018.

Unfortunately, some parents continue to drive on site without permission and so to ensure the safeguarding of all children, our gates will henceforth close at 8:10am.

If your child has a disability and you need to drop them on the school site please write to Mr McDonald, who will review your request and issue a pass to access the site as necessary.

This needs to be reviewed each year and if you have had a pass previously, we would be grateful for you contacting us again for 2020-2021 at [office@allsaints-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@allsaints-academy.co.uk).

## ***Parent Focus Group***

We are committed to engaging positively with parents and carers and are therefore asking for expressions of interest in forming a Parent Focus Group.

The group will meet once every six weeks on the middle Tuesday (or as close as possible) of each half term.

If you would like to attend the first meeting, please arrive at reception on 17 November at 6.30pm. No sign up is necessary to this first meeting, at which we will gauge interest and explain how we will take the group forward.

Meanwhile, if you have concerns about school or your pupil, please contact us officially via [office@allsaints-academy.co.uk](mailto:office@allsaints-academy.co.uk) or by calling 01305 783391.

Please be aware that although we are aware of mechanisms such as the informal Parent / Carer Facebook group, **we are not part of them and, therefore, do not have the ability to respond to issues raised therein.**

## ***Risk Assessment***

When a pupil has injured themselves or become ill, it is imperative that Parents and Carers communicate this with us as soon as possible and pass on relevant medical documentation or paperwork from the GP or Hospital.

This is to protect pupils in the education setting and allow Mr Harrop, our First Aid Lead, to conduct a risk assessment. These are legal documents that enable pupils to stay within education in a safe environment.



If this applies to your child, we will need to arrange a meeting to discuss the situation further. Please do not send your child to the Academy with crutches not supplied from a hospital for a specific injury or if they have not got official medical clearance to attend.

Thank you for your understanding that this position is for pupil's safety.

## ***SchoolCloud***

Due to coronavirus, we are trialling a new and easy to use online appointment booking and video conference calling system called SchoolCloud.

Other schools have found this system works very well. It allows parents and carers to choose their own appointment times with teachers and on the evening itself, appointments will take place using video conferencing between parents / carers and teachers.

We will trial it after half term for Y11 and then roll it out across the school. We will contact you with dates for your children's respective parents evening dates in due course.

## ***Ready Respect Safe***

We would be grateful for you sharing with your child a couple of key reminders in this regard:

- Walk - don't run - in the building
- Put all rubbish into the bins provided
- Avoid physical contact at break and lunch
- Keep the noise to a reasonable level in the building
- Respect the toilets by and report any issues immediately
- Cyclists must wear helmets and obtain a permit from Mr Stradling

Put very simply, we would ask everyone to follow our golden rule:

Treat others as you would wish to be treated!

## ***Year 11***

Year 11 pupils have engaged very positively with their academic programme this year so far.

Their mocks begin on Monday 16 November and last for two weeks. They will be held in the Sports Hall and M1 / M2 for those with Exam Access Arrangements.



Please do make sure you have seen the Year 11 Information Evening which can be accessed by clicking on [this link](#).

Pupils have made very good progress in terms of attending our revision programme – please encourage your child to attend these where possible!

For all initial enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor.

## ***FASA Fundraising***

FASA raise funds for equipment to support our children and our community whole heartedly thank them for continuing this, even during Covid.

Our non-uniform days this year will no doubt prove to be a great success. We thank you for your support.

The donation link is a live link throughout the year. If you know anyone who wants to help the children please do mention this link <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12355>.

## ***Reading Strategy***

In January 2021, we will be launching a new reading strategy. There is a well-established link between reading and academic achievement.

There will be many aspects to the strategy which is designed to ensure every child develops a love of reading for their whole life.

In the meantime, you can help us build towards this by ensuring that pupils bring in a book with them every day.

## ***Additional Buses After Half Term***

We would like to remind you of the additional buses after half term that First Group have put on. There is now a dedicated school service which is called the S1 rather than 1. Please ensure students board the S1 not the 1.

### **Morning**

Portland Rip Croft	0802
Easton Square	0813
Portland Victoria Square	0821
National Sailing Academy	0823
Wyke Regis Smugglers	0829
Terminates at Rylands Lane (for All Saints School) at 0831	

### **Afternoon**

Wyke Regis Smugglers	1517
starts at Rylands Lane at 1515	
National Sailing Academy	1523
Portland Victoria Square	1526
Easton Square	1535
Portland Rip Croft	1541



## Privacy Notice

AAT and All Saints CE Academy provides you with a privacy notice to explain how it collects, stores and uses your personal data. Please read [The Notice](#) on our website.

## Key Dates

<https://allsaints.dorset.sch.uk/parents/term-dates/>

### TERM DATES 2020/21 SECONDARY SECTOR

#### Autumn Term:

Staff Training	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2020
Staff Training	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Pupils' First Day	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
Staff Training	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020
Staff Training	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Pupils' Last Day	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020

#### Spring Term:

Staff Training	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Pupils' First Day	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Half Term	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 19 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021
Pupils' Last Day	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021

#### Summer Term:

Pupils' First Day	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
May Day	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021
Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Staff Training	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021
Pupils' Last Day	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021

#### Staff Training Days:

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

## Finally...

Please do stay safe this half term – it is still so important to stay alert in order to control coronavirus and save lives. That said, enjoy a restful and relaxing break.

With every blessing



John Cornish, Principal

