



# Holy Cross

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER **Mr I Gaughan BA**

July 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardian

I am delighted that your child will be joining us in September and I am writing to you to outline the arrangements that we have put in place to support the transition process and to ease any anxieties that you or your child may have.

### New Intake Academic Transition

I hope that you have found the new section of the school website dedicated to New Intake informative and it has given you an insight into life at Holy Cross. I have been very impressed by the work that your children have produced from the transition booklet and the online lessons and it has been lovely to share their work on our Twitter feed to show that they are already a part of our school community. I would recommend that your child continues to work through these booklets over the summer, in particular the Sky Hawk novel, as this will be the first unit of work in English and will culminate in a literacy day at the end of September.

### New Intake Pastoral Transition

A card has been posted this week to give your child information on who will be their form tutor next year. In the New Intake section on our school website [www.holycross.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.holycross.lancs.sch.uk) and on our Twitter feed, you will also find a personalised message from each of the seven tutors who will form the Year 7 team along with Mr Callander as Head of Year, Miss Webster Assistant Head of Year and Miss Marcroft SLT link for Year 7. Mr Callander and Miss Calver, our transition coordinator have spent a lot of time communicating with primary Year 6 teachers and headteachers to find out as much information as possible about your child and to ensure that pupils are placed in the correct form. Due to the large number of pupils in the cohort, we cannot take parental requests when deciding tutor groups.

### Phased Return and New Start Day

As a result of lockdown, we have been unable to carry out activities such as Induction Day to meet your child face to face. To support the transition process, we would like to invite your child into school on **Wednesday 2 September 2020 for a Year 7 Induction Day**. This day will be their first day of school and solely dedicated to Year 7; no other year groups will be attending on this day and there will be a pastoral focus. Your child should be in full school uniform and bring in a bottle of water, a snack for break time and their pencil case. Any medication that your child may need should also be brought in. PE kit will not be required on this day. Your child will spend time getting to know their form tutor who will be your first contact point to answer any questions; they will be able to get a feel for the school and meet some of their new class teachers and make some new friends.

On Wednesday 2 September, your child will register on the school fire lines at 08.50 and meet their form tutor. The photography company will visit to take their photograph and a biometric thumbprint will be taken. If you haven't already done so, please ensure that you sign and return the biometric parental consent form. Your child will carry out a range of 'get to know you' activities and will have time to ask any questions to their form tutor. A packed lunch will be provided on this day for each child and it will be free of charge.

On this day, the school bus service will be operational and school will finish at 15.10. If you are collecting your child, they will walk over to the car park to be collected by the bus-turning circle.

Your child will remain in their tutor group for lessons for a number of weeks until we have gathered enough information from Cognitive Ability Tests to place them into ability classes. A Year 7 zone will be in place from September to maintain safety measures.

I hope this information provides reassurance that we are taking sensible steps to ensure the smooth and safe transition for your child. As always, this is a rapidly changing situation and we await further announcements. From this point, you will also start to receive all school communications when I update the whole community about our plans for full reopening in September.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at [admin@holycross.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holycross.lancs.sch.uk) and please keep looking on our website and Twitter feed (@holycrosschorl). Our admin office will be closed from Friday 17 July, but will reopen on the 24 August.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Holy Cross Community and to working with you to provide the best possible education for your child.

Have a lovely summer holiday and stay safe,

Yours sincerely



Mr I Gaughan  
Headteacher