



ST. MATTHEW'S
ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Voluntary Academy

17 February 2022

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of another half term, I am writing to thank you for your continued support, and explain how we will continue to strive for excellence for our students. This half term, we have placed particular emphasis on the importance of routines, rewards and responsibilities, and we will continue to do so when we return after the half term break.

This half term, we have placed a spotlight on our routines around school. Some of these have been existing expectations, and some of these have been new routines. They have all been designed to ensure teaching and learning remains our core business. As we continue to embed these after half term, we would appreciate your support with the following key messages:

- ★ Students are expected to be in full uniform every day. **Why?** We expect our staff and students to dress professionally and to be proud of our community.
- ★ Students should arrive to all lessons on time, and stay in class. **Why?** Students should always be ready to learn. Teaching and learning is our core business. Any student who is late to a lesson will receive a consequence.
- ★ Any actions that lead a student to be out of lesson without permission are not acceptable. **Why?** If a student is not in class, then we cannot account for their whereabouts. This is unsafe.
- ★ Students are expected to move around the building in a calm and orderly manner. **Why?** This is paramount to keeping our community safe. We will continue to insist on this.

In striving for excellence, our staff are always keen to celebrate the achievements of our students. Next half term, we will look to enhance the rewards our students receive in return for achieving excellence. Our aim is to ensure our rewards are consistent, meaningful and relevant to all our young people. Thank you for continuing to support your child with all their achievements.

Finally, we have recently have seen a rise in the number of times our fire alarms have been activated in school. We have installed a high-quality fire detection system that is extremely sensitive. Where we have found students to be responsible for this, we have applied extremely serious sanctions. The health and safety of all students and staff will never be compromised. **From 28th February 2022 we will not allow aerosols in the school building.**

Furthermore, may we politely remind everyone that the use of vapes continues to be illegal in public settings. Have a great half-term break and we look forward to communicating again at Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Passarello
Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)