



23 May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of this very short but busy half term our Y11 students are halfway through their GCSE examinations. Their attitude and behaviour have been exemplary. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.

It was great to see so many Y10 students and their parents/carers at our GCSE revision skills evening with Tim Milner. Year 10 should now be using these skills to prepare for their exams at the end of June!

We had great feedback and response from our Year 7 parents at the recent parents' evening. We continue to try to improve our systems and we value your help in piloting new ideas. Our Year 7 parents trialled an online booking system for parents' evening appointments and their comments have helped us to evaluate providers to ensure that we have the best system possible. We will be sending out instructions at least three weeks before each of next year's parents' evenings to ensure a smooth transition to this more efficient system. One of the problems highlighted was incorrect emails and we would be grateful if you would contact us with any changes to your email addresses.

Throughout the year we have taken your feedback and the feedback from our students on board and have made improvements along the way. For example:

- A new website
- An 'enquiry' email: enquiry@holymfamilycarlton.org
- Half termly student reports on 'Attitude to Learning' and 'Behaviour'
- A 'buzzer' at parents' evenings to help everyone keep to time!
- A 'mental health' awareness programme for all year groups
- An 'enrichment' programme
- Celebrating the success of our students who always attend school and who have a great attitude as well as those who are improving
- Introducing our own 'school prayer'
- Developing a careers programme from Year 8 to Year 11
- Year 11 access to the hall at break and lunch
- More footballs and sets of goals for break and lunchtime!
- Increasing student leadership opportunities
- Targeted intervention sessions for students who need more support
- New and improved mentoring programmes
- More trips to further and higher education providers
- Revised behaviour and uniform policy for September 2019
- Changes to improve the school day from September 2019

Continued overleaf

18% of parents/carers who filled in our questionnaires over the year would like their children to have more homework. We will be revising our homework policy and will keep parents/carers informed on 'independent learning' tasks for their children alongside the schemes of learning that they study in school.

We are moving to a new system in school in September called 'SIMs' which will help us to track our students more efficiently and improve communication with parents/carers.

Finally, I have enclosed:

- A summary of the changes for September following our recent consultations

After half term we will send out a 'hard copy' of our revised behaviour and uniform policies for September 2019. Both are now on our website for you to access. The school holiday calendar for 2019/20 is also on our website, including our training days.

As always I thank you for your continued support for your children and our community. Serving as Headteacher of this fantastic school continues to be a blessing.

Enjoy your half term break, school starts again on Monday 3rd June 2019.

Yours faithfully



Mrs D Mitchell

Headteacher

Our Mission

Together we step out in faith, knowing that Christ is with us and **united as a holy family**.

We commit to ensure that each child realises their full potential **growing in wisdom and grace**.

Holy Family Catholic High School places Christ at the heart of everything we do and openly gives witness to the Catholic **values of love, compassion, forgiveness and reconciliation** in our daily work.

Uniform 2019/20

Many thanks to all the parents, students, governors and staff who contributed to the consultation regarding changes to the Holy Family School uniform.

Whilst the majority of feedback revealed positive support for these changes, there was genuine concern regarding the cost implications. In particular, with regard to the addition of school logos. Therefore, the proposed changes have been kept to a minimum where there was a clear majority of support and the least overall financial impact.

Many thanks to the student leaders who organised the pupil ballots on the proposed uniform changes.

Key points from the consultation

Jumpers

- Year 11 will continue to be permitted to wear a black V-neck school jumper with the school logo as there was both pupil and parental support for this.
- Years 7 to 10 - a plain grey V-neck school jumper with a plain red stripe on the collar.

Trousers/Skirts

- As outlined at the consultations, trousers will **remain black** and be in line with the current uniform policy but we would draw your attention to the specifics to ensure that trousers are appropriate for our school. Tight, cropped, fashion or ankle grazer trousers and leggings are **NOT** permitted. Trouser length must be below the ankle. Reminder - Plain black socks are permitted but must cover the ankle.
- The vote on a new Holy Family school skirt was overwhelmingly in favour of the 'plaid' option. No other skirts will be permitted after September 2019.

PE Kit

The concerns raised through the consultation regarding the additional costs of providing a new PE kit are legitimate as are the equally valid points of the many parents who are in favour of the proposed new kit. Therefore, in order to accommodate both views:

- School will introduce the new kit as an **option** for all students from September 2019.
- It will become compulsory for pupils starting in Year 7 from September 2020.

The local shops stocking our bespoke uniform items:

Holy Family High School Blazer

Holy Family High School Skirt

Holy Family High School grey (Y7-10) and black (Y11) jumpers

Holy Family High School Tie

Holy Family High School PE Kit

The School Uniform Shop 26-28 Pasture Rd, Goole DN14 6EZ

Classroom Clothing 22 Finkle St, Selby YO8 4DS

School Day from September 2019

Our consultation showed that the large majority of our community were in favour of the changes to the school day.

We now have agreements from the transport companies, local authority and caterers to enable us to go forward with our proposal.

08.45 to 09.00	Registration/Assemblies/Collective Worship
09.00 to 10.00	Lesson 1
10.00 to 11.00	Lesson 2
11.00 to 11.20	Break
11.20 to 12.20	Lesson 3
12.20 to 13.20	Lesson 4
13.20 to 14.00	Lunch
14.00 to 15.00	Lesson 5

Please note the following in response to queries we received during the consultation:

- There will be an after school 'drop-in' homework club available every day for students from 3pm until 4pm.
- An 'extra-curricular' calendar will be sent home in September to alert parents to the other after school clubs and interventions that are available each day.
- There will continue to be clubs on lunchtimes. Lunch passes will be given to students from the member of staff running the activity.
- We are working with the catering company to introduce an improved healthy food offer, an option for parents to 'pre-pay', meal deals and a new layout to the canteen.
- We are setting up additional tables in the main hall to improve the dining experience for students

Positive Behaviour Policy

Our revised policy received universal support during our consultation process, along with some great suggestions. We have 'tweaked' it following this feedback. It has been agreed by governors and is now on our school website.

Thank you to everyone in our community for all the support, suggestions and positivity.

We are always striving to make the Holy Family Catholic High School the best it can be for our wonderful students.

Together we can make it happen.

'Go ahead, do your duty; we support you. Be brave, take action!' Ezra 10:4