



Holy Trinity College

9-29 Chapel Street
COOKSTOWN
Co Tyrone
BT80 8QB

Principal: Mrs I Russell BA (Hons) MTD PQH (NI)

A Specialist Sports and English Academy

26 February 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian

I hope you and your family are keeping safe and well.

Pupils have had a well-deserved rest during the mid-term break and we hope they can now refocus and re-engage with their learning. Remote Learning continues for all Year Groups. We appreciate the support which you as parents/guardians have provided to your child(ren) and we ask that this continues over the next number of weeks. The recent NI Executive announcement indicates that Years 12–14 should return to school on Monday 22 March 2021. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back into school and returning to a more ‘normal’ way of working. Should there be any change to this date, we will keep you informed.

Text-a-Nurse: The Department of Education have launched a new secure and confidential **Text-a-Nurse** service for young people aged between 11–18, should they require advice and support. The service is provided by the School Nursing Team who will provide advice on a range of issues including mental/emotional health issues, general well-being, bullying, sexual, drugs and alcohol. Pupils may text **07480 635982** which is the Northern Health and Social Care Trust line, to seek advice on sensitive issues without a face to face appointment.

Examinations: We continue to await further guidance on the evidence required for Examination Grades. In the meantime, we ask pupils in Years 11–14 to continue engaging in remote learning and to submit high quality work as and when required. The Minister for Education, Peter Weir announced yesterday, that Examination results will be published on the following dates:

- ✓ AS and A Level Results – 10 August 2021
- ✓ GCSE Results – 12 August 2021

Year 12 into Post 16 Transition: The College is now accepting applications from pupils in Year 12 who are considering returning to Post 16 in September 2021. Information with regard to admissions criteria, subject choices and presentations, Prospectus and an online application form can be found on the College Website. Pupils meeting the relevant criteria will have conditional offers with final admission to Sixth Form dependent on achieving the required GCSE results. Applications should be submitted by Wednesday 3 March. If you have any further concerns or wish to discuss the process further, please do not hesitate to contact the College on 028 8676 2420.

Post Primary Applications: The Primary 7 admissions process into Year 8 opens on Monday 1st March. All applications must be placed online via the EA website www.eani.org.uk. As an all-ability school with an inclusive ethos, each pupil will be treated as an individual to develop their skills and abilities. Year 8 pupils will be supported and challenged with many aspiring to follow an academic curriculum in Year 11 GCSE and beyond. Others may follow a more vocational route with ‘hands-on’ practical subjects leading to apprenticeships. Those who require additional support will receive it via our highly skilled Special Needs Department. With a wide range of subjects and extra-curricular activities on



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offer to Post 16 level, and excellent pastoral care and support, your child will be supported by a dedicated and committed staff, who simply want to ensure that every opportunity is afforded to them to succeed and thrive in preparation for adult life. If you have any concerns about the Post Primary Admissions process, please do not hesitate to contact the College on 028 8676 2420. Similarly, if you are aware of other pupils and parents who may wish to consider Holy Trinity College as their Post Primary school, please share this information with them as well. They too are very welcome to contact the College for further information.

Remote Learning Survey: We appreciate the time and effort by pupils, parents/guardians and staff in completing the recent Remote Learning survey, issued before the Mid Term Break. It is important to hear your experiences of remote learning. Remote learning is not an ideal situation but everyone, pupils, parents/guardians and staff, are doing an incredible job and are juggling responsibilities accordingly. Thank you. We welcome your very positive feedback on **what we are doing well** and **how we can provide the best learning experience for our pupils**. The recommendations from the survey have been forwarded to you in a separate letter.

Supporting our community: Holy Trinity College continues to involve itself in a number of initiatives to support our school community.

- ✓ Fareshare Project Food parcels – open to any family
- ✓ BT Wi-Fi Vouchers for pupils on Free School Meals and with limited internet access
- ✓ Fuel Stamps to the value of £40 for families on Free School Meals. This initiative is in conjunction with Mid Ulster Council and Department for Communities.

Please contact the College for further details.

All staff in Holy Trinity College will continue to do their very best to support each and every pupil. If you have any concerns or require additional support, please do not hesitate to contact the College on 028 8676 2420 or email info@holytrinityc.cookstown.ni.sch.uk.

Please continue to keep safe, look after yourselves, and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Isabel Russell

Isabel Russell

Principal