

St Gabriel's

Roman Catholic High School



08 November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We write to thank you for your kindness and patience over the recent changes to lunchtimes. One or two parents have expressed disappointment regarding lunchtime activities being restricted, due to our split lunchtimes and we fully understand this. It is of great frustration to us that the canteen capacity has not been addressed over time, so we are working hard to resolve this in both the interim and longer term.

This week we have sourced some portable extra rooms, which will create capacity for us to plan to return to a single lunchtime after the Christmas holidays. This will hopefully enable us to provide seating and shelter for our children in the interim period. The Diocese are also supporting us with a bid to extend the dining facilities and this work is already well under way.

In the meantime, we would like to reassure you that our extremely valued choir practice is still available to students in form times 3 days per week and Holy Cross are working collaboratively with us, to offer even greater singing opportunities every Weds afternoon, commencing next week.

It is our intention that we will develop a multi-generational choir in the New Year, welcoming all past and present staff and students, to join and come to St Gabriel's for weekly rehearsals. Look out for the adverts coming soon to your parish!

We have also received feedback regarding our behaviour policy. Some parents have stated that they feel a seclusion is an unsuitable consequence for students who may forget their passports as a one off. Therefore, we have also revisited this consequence and students forgetting passports will be given a passport slip, which must be kept on them at all times and then transferred into their passports the next day in the first instance. This will be allowed once per term. Further occurrences will result in a seclusion. We hope this meets with your approval and ask you to reflect upon the importance of the passport in maintaining high expectations for behaviour. Behaviour has improved dramatically as a result of our new policy.

We thank you for all your support so far this term and would like to finish this correspondence by advising you that we have received a visit from the Assistant Director of Education this week, who rigorously scrutinised our work so far and school improvement planning. He also toured the school and dropped into lessons. He was hugely impressed by the work we have rapidly undertaken to get St Gabriel's back to its former status, where we belong. We will update you on his actual comments when we receive the written report, but our students did us proud.

Yours faithfully

St Gabriel's Leadership Team

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"

Justice, Tolerance, Forgiveness and Generosity

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