



Letter from the Senior School Pastoral Team

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

A Thank You and an Update from the Senior School Pastoral Care Team

We are conscious that many of our pupils and their wider families are experiencing extremely challenging circumstances. We know that many of you are doing your very best to juggle your own work commitments, while supporting your children as they access remote learning. You have helped your child submit assignments and complete various sporting, baking, crafting challenges. You have entertained, reassured and consoled. All of this at a time of great uncertainty is no mean feat – well done!

Thank you for your ongoing support of the St Aloysius Community and thank you for the numerous positive messages and interactions that have taken place in recent weeks.

Pastoral Care Provision and Contact Details

We want to take this opportunity to provide a brief update regarding the ongoing pastoral care and wellbeing support provisions within the Senior School:

While most pupils are undergoing an 'academic transition', we believe it is important to provide some consistency in terms of their pastoral support. Until further notice, pupils and parents should continue to regard their existing Head of Year as their first point of contact, should they have any questions or concerns.

The relevant contact details are confirmed below:

S1 (moving towards S2):	ghartshorne@stalloysius.org
S2 (moving towards S3):	gsmith@stalloysius.org
S3 (moving towards S4):	lsturrock@stalloysius.org
S4 (moving towards S5):	rfeer@stalloysius.org
S5 (moving towards S6):	rpiggot@stalloysius.org
S6 (moving towards the real world!):	elawrie@stalloysius.org

If you or your child has any serious wellbeing or safeguarding concerns, please contact the Senior School Safeguarding Officers:

Ryan Ferrie rferrie@stalloysius.org

Isabelle Erskine ierskine@stalloysius.org

Counselling and Support

Many of our pupils will, in the future, look back on 'lockdown' with fondness. They are enjoying the novelty of online learning and due to your hard work as parents, they feel safe and happy. They are certainly not missing long commutes or being asked to fasten their 'top buttons'.

However, we know that many pupils are very much missing their friends, a school routine and for a few, this period will be traumatic. We know that the future is uncertain but we are



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taking steps to ensure we have the expertise and resources to meet the wellbeing needs of all our students, whatever the future may bring. Some of our pupils continue to lean on the support of their Head of Year and some continue to access the school's counselling service. One of the challenges at this time is being able to rely on the daily interaction with our pupils, to identify their support needs. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's Head of Year or any member of the College Leadership Team, should you have any wellbeing concerns. We will not always have the answer but we are eager to listen and hope to help where we can.

Wellbeing Check-in

To further compliment this wellbeing work, we are now asking pupils from S1 to S6 to complete a short 'Wellbeing Check-in' survey. This can be located on Schoology and should take no more than 5mins to complete. This gives pupils an opportunity to think about their own wellbeing and to let us know how they are doing. It provides a safe and confidential forum for them to tell us if there is anything we can do to help.

Please encourage your child to complete this short survey by the end of **Tuesday 19th May**.

Staying Connected

As well as being there for direct support, Heads of Year continue to update Schoology with wellbeing resources and activities, to keep your child feeling included and motivated. It has been a pleasure to see so many pupils engage with different initiatives such as quizzes, 5K challenges, MasterChef 'cook-offs' or 'pass the ball' videos. As a community, we have raised money for charity and made each other smile. We will continue to look at ways to use technology to keep our community connected.

It is a pleasure to work with your children and we are very much missing seeing them, in their green blazers, arriving on Hill St. We look forward to a time when we can return to school and until such times, hope to continue supporting them on their journey.

Kind regards,

The Pastoral Team



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