



# TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (Science & Sports College)

**Headmaster:** Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA

**Website:** <https://tchs.uk.net>

Letter (B)

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents & Students,

I write to you on an important matter that has been seriously affected by the Covid pandemic and to outline how we are dealing with it. In the UK schools with a designated religious character, like Catholic schools, collective worship is far more than a statutory requirement. It is crucial to the spiritual life of the school and to pupils' moral and spiritual development. Collective worship is an important part of a Catholic school's distinctive ethos.

Taking part in daily collective worship helps build community cohesion by creating a consistent structure around the core values and symbols of Christianity. In Catholic schools, pupil participation and engagement in worship are important criteria in the diocesan inspection of Catholic education, not least during the daily act of collective worship. From Year 7 to Year 13, pupils are invited to play an active part in collective worship.

How then, with social bubbles and social distancing are we able to fulfil that function as well as ensure that our students continue to grow in faith? The daily Angelus and the prayer at 3.00pm, which have been an intrinsic part of our school life, continue albeit at an amended time (now at 2.45pm) to ensure that all students are able to participate. Our Acclamation continues to be said at the beginning of every lesson and, during period one, all staff will lead students in daily prayer which is published in the bulletin and further resources available online. We will be starting the 8.20am Mass on two days of the week (Wednesdays and Fridays) and this will be solely for Year 7. This will commence on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** in the Lower Site Chapel. We are not yet in any position to invite other year groups at the moment as this would compromise the Year 'bubbles'.

Each Friday, Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has continued. A 'Holy Hour' is offered and staff participate in this to pray for an end to the pandemic.



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Weekly Assemblies have been recorded and broadcast on a weekly basis. This will continue and next week we will have our Vision Assembly where, as a community, we recite and aim to uphold the Vision for Trinity. Finally, Mr Connolly, our new Director of RE, has looked at the Year 7 Curriculum and will be establishing a new programme of 'ABC', All About Being Catholic. This programme will focus on our Catholic beliefs, our Creed as well as consider our Sacraments and how the Grace received through them help to build our life and relationship with God and with each other.

Under the circumstances Collective worship continues, know that we pray for you and your families, for our school, the needs of the Church and for the world. May we soon reach and end to this crisis and resume 'normal' service.

May God bless you and your families.

Kindest regards,

Dr. P.C Doherty OBE  
Headmaster

Mr Liam Connolly  
Assistant Head Teacher  
Director of RE

Rev. Dr. Alan Mair  
Permanent Deacon

