

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Academisation Programme

As parents and carers may or may not be aware, in March 2022, the government published its White Paper, which stated that by 2030, all schools will be expected to become an academy and join a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). A MAT is a group of schools which work together to share best practice, so that educational standards are raised even further and greater value for money can be secured through joint buying power. MATs receive funding directly from the government, rather than through a Local Authority, and are governed by a Board of Directors.

In communication with our Trustees, the Sister of Notre Dame, and our governing body, the Department for Education (DfE) have informed us that Notre Dame Catholic College will begin the process of becoming an academy through the course of the coming academic year and will join a Catholic MAT. The DfE have not yet decided which Catholic MAT Notre Dame will join but a decision on this is expected over the coming weeks. Parents and carers will be informed once this decision has been communicated to Trustees and governors.

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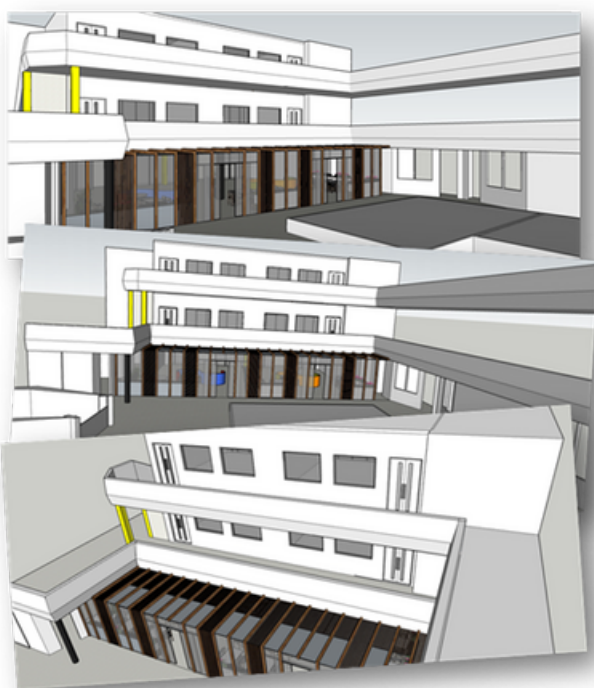


MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

In many respects, the academies that operate within MATs are run in the same way as state schools. Notre Dame will continue to be a **Catholic** college. The day-to-day running of the school stays the same. Academies are inspected by Ofsted. They have to follow the same rules on admissions, special educational needs and exclusions as other state schools. Academies do not charge fees and students sit the same exams. MATs do have more control over some aspects of school life, for example they do not have to follow the national curriculum and can set their own term times. (For more information on academy status, follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-school/academies>)

In the meantime, Trustees, governors, college leaders and staff continue to focus entirely on the quality of your child's educational experience and pastoral care. Please be assured that every step will be taken to ensure that our transition to academy status and joining a Catholic MAT will be as smooth as possible, having only a positive impact on your child's school experience. If parents and carers have any questions or queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact school. **Any further announcements or developments will be shared via this newsletter.**

Building works and end of term arrangements



Back in 2019, in response to the increased demand for places at Notre Dame, governors agreed to increase the college's Pupil Admission Number (PAN) from 150 pupils per year group to 180 pupils per year group. Since then, the college's pupil population has grown by over 200 pupils and leaders have taken several steps to accommodate these growing numbers by building extra classrooms within the school building.

This summer sees the final stage of this building work as we create 4 new classrooms to accommodate the intake of our final bigger year group. Initial construction work on this has commenced during weekends. In consultation with our building contractors and governors, we have amended our arrangements for the end of this summer term in the interests of pupils' health and safety.

Students will now end the summer term at 2.20pm on Friday 14th July. This will ensure that all building work will be complete in time for the start of the new academic year on Monday 4th September.

If this change presents any challenges to parents and carers please do not hesitate to get in touch with school. For pupils eligible for Free School Meals, lunch packs covering the 3 final days of the planned term will be available for collection from reception on **Monday 17th July**. Please contact school if you wish to take up on this offer.

Theme of the Week: **British Values**



The theme for this week's collective worship and assemblies has been 'British Values'. Together, we have explored how the British Values of Democracy, Individual Liberty, The Rule of Law, Mutual Respect and Tolerance compliment our Catholic mission and our Core Values as a Notre Dame school. Many form groups focused their discussions on the themes of respect and tolerance. St Julie said, "We must never overlook a lack of respect for it damages charity." We prayed for those who are oppressed, dehumanised and maligned by the communities within which they live and gave thanks for the society within which we live. We also celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi and prayed for the many brothers and sisters who are receiving their First Holy Communion across our community.

New Director of Behaviour for Learning



Finally, we would like to inform parents and carers that Mrs Serrels has been appointed as Notre Dame's new Director of Behaviour for Learning and took up post this Monday 5th June. This week, Mrs Serrels has reiterated the school's expectations in terms of uniform, attendance and punctuality. We would like to congratulate Mrs Serrels on her appointment and ask parents and carers to continue to support us in the reinforcement of our core values and the behaviours and attitudes that they instil.

WISHING EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY A PEACEFUL WEEKEND

Mr Duffy

External Examinations Update

Year 11 students will now only attend school for their examinations and compulsory revision sessions. **Students will be required to check their personal class charts accounts daily** as revision sessions will be individualised based on what their exam timetable looks like. **Please note students are required to sit their examinations in full school uniform.**

Year 11 Exam Timetable:

Monday 12th June - Friday 16th June 2023

Date / Time	9am	1pm
Monday 12 June	English Language Paper 2 (AQA) 1 hour 45 mins	Greek Listening & Reading (AQA) 1 hour 50 mins (45 mins Listening / 1 hour 5 mins Reading) Further Mathematics Written Paper (Edexcel) 1 hour 30 mins
Tuesday 13 June	Chemistry Paper 2 (AQA) 1 hour 45 mins Combined Sci Trilogy Chemistry (AQA) 1 hour 15 mins	Spanish Writing Test (AQA) Higher Paper 1 hour 15 mins / Foundation 1 hour ICT Functional Skills (YEAR 10) (Edexcel)
Wednesday 14 June	Mathematics Calculator Paper (Edexcel) 1 hour 30 mins	Music Written Paper (AQA) 1 hour 30 mins Polish Listening & Reading (AQA) 1 hour 45 mins (45 mins Listening / 1 hour Reading) Portuguese Listening & Reading (Edexcel) 1 hour 45 mins (45 mins Listening / 1 hour Reading)
Thursday 15 June	History Weimar & Nazi Germany (Edexcel) 1 hour 45 mins	No Exams Scheduled - Please use Study time wisely
Friday 16 June	Physics Paper 2 (AQA) 1 hour 45 mins Combined Sci Trilogy Physics (AQA) 1 hour 15 mins	Geography Paper 3 (AQA) 1 hour 15 mins

Year 13 Exam Timetable:

Monday 12th June - Friday 16th June

Date / Time	9am	1pm
Monday 12 June	Chemistry ADV Paper 1 (AQA) 2 hours Applied Business Unit 4 (AQA) 1 hour 30 mins English Language Paper 2 (AQA) 1 hour 45 mins	Music ADV Written (AQA) 2 hours 30 mins Health and Social Care: U7 Safeguarding (RSA) 1 hour 30 mins
Tuesday 13 June	No Exams Scheduled - Please use Study time wisely	
Wednesday 14 June	Mathematics Calculator Paper (Edexcel) 1 hour 30 mins	Sociology ADV Paper 3 (AQA) 2 hours Persian Listening Reading Writing (Edexcel) 2 hours 15 mins
Thursday 15 June	Physics ADV (AQA) 2 hours	No Exams Scheduled - Please use Study time wisely
Friday 16 June	Biology B: Scientific Literacy Biology Written (OCR) 2 hours	No Exams Scheduled - Please use Study time wisely

Our website will be updated with exam reminders. The following 2 areas will be updated:

Examination Preparation and Support

Examination Procedures

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English Revision Sessions

Leading up to Language Paper Two (Exam is on the 12th June)

AQA Language Paper Two - Section B- Writing

Saturday 10th June, 10.00- 11.30

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83855418064>

AQA Language Paper Two - Section A

Saturday 10th June 12.00-14.00

Join Zoom Meeting:

Leading up to Language Paper Two (Exam is on the 12th June)

AQA Language Paper Two- Section B- Writing

Saturday 10th June, 10.00- 11.30

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83855418064>



Year 11 Prom Date

Our Year 11 Prom will take place on
**Thursday 13th July 2023 at the Isla
Gladstone Conservatory, 7pm - 11pm.**

The cost of the event will be **£40 per student** and will include an arrival drink (non-alcoholic cocktail), Buffet, LED Dance floor and DJ and a Magic Mirror Photobooth.



Dress code is smart-casual. Suits and prom dresses are not required.

The deadline to pay the £20 deposit has now passed. The remaining balance is due no later than **Monday 26th June 2023 via Parent Pay.** Please note, cash will not be accepted. Please contact the school office or Mr Bond for further details.



Year 9 Open Minds to #STEM!

Our Year 9 students visited the STEM event at The UK Imaging and Oncology Congress (UKIO) taking place at the ACC Liverpool on Wednesday. Following presentations from a range of medical professionals that have overcome obstacles. Our students had access to a specially designed and curated exhibition from the medical imaging field. They had the opportunity to learn about the basics of radiology, imaging science and medicine. A brilliant trip opening minds to future careers in science!

Notre Dame Achieves ADHD Friendly School Status!

We announced the news in our newsletter prior to the half term break that Notre Dame Catholic College had achieved the ADHD Friendly School Award from the ADHD Foundation. We were delighted to receive this wonderful recognition for our students and staff who have worked hard to ensure we meet the criteria required to achieve this status and to continue to support and **open doors** for students and staff with ADHD.



“Arron Hutchinson, the Education Training Director of the ADHD Foundation said,
“It has been a pleasure to work with Notre Dame. All of the staff have gone above and beyond to make their lessons and their school environment enjoyable, supportive and safe spaces for their students with ADHD, and families of those students. They truly deserve this award which recognises all of the hard work they are doing.”

Our official award arrived this week to mark this achievement. Mrs Fitzpatrick, along with staff members, Ms Martin, Mrs Robinson-Powell, Mrs Hall, Mrs Banks and Miss Styles gratefully received the award along with our students. A huge well done to our entire school community!

Read with Pride

At Notre Dame Catholic College we Read with Pride!

Our school Library is celebrating Pride Month. A time to celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community. Reading books by LGBTQIA+ authors or about LGBTQIA+ characters can promote understanding, empathy, and inclusivity. We have lots of different texts available for students to choose from this month! See Miss Dennis in the library for more.



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Year 10 Prepare for Work Experience

A reminder that Mrs Hall delivered an assembly to year 10 students about work experience. All students will have the opportunity to complete a week's work experience during the week of **11th-15th December 2023**. This will take place after year 11 mock exams and just before the Christmas break.



We are encouraging all students to begin contacting different employers asap to find their own placement. Deadline for self-placements is 17th July.

For those students unable to secure their own the placement of their choice , we will ask **Elevate** our work experience partner to provide a work placement for them. To help with the administration of self-placements we will be using the **Unifrog Placements Tool**. As a school we subscribe to Unifrog, an excellent careers management platform that provides great resources for students to support their career planning and personal development. Information for parents will be sent out through ParentApps and uploaded to the [careers page on the website](#).

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Hall
hallg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Work Experience Resources

Year 11 Work Experience will take place 11th -15th December 2023.

Owing to the increased demand for work experience placements over the last year, we feel it is essential that our current Year 10 students begin as soon as possible to identify their preferred placement choice.

We are asking Year 10 students (with their families support) to source their own work experience placement. To manage the administration of self-placements, we are using the **Unifrog Placements Tool** to collect information from the employer about their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy, as well as getting agreement from Parents/Carers for the placement to go ahead. Unifrog is a comprehensive careers platform that we subscribe to as a school and students will be given the opportunity to subscribe to this platform during the Summer 2023 Term.

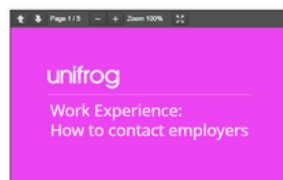
The **deadline for all self-placements is 17th July**. If a student is unable to find their own placement, we will work with **Elevate**, one of our work experience partners, to support finding a placement for them. Please be aware that there is no guarantee this will be in your child's preferred job sector. For further information, please see the resources below.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Hall, our Careers Advisor for further details and support.

Year 10 Letter to Parents - Work Experience Information




Video: How to use the Unifrog Placement Tool



Just a reminder if an employer has agreed to your placement, you will need their name, telephone number and email address to complete the initial form on Unifrog Placements Tool. If you have any questions , please speak to Mrs Hall.

Attendance Reminders & Procedures



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Getting to school is really important because...

If your attendance during the school year:	You will approximately lose...	Or you approximately miss...
was 97%	5 DAYS of school	25 lessons
was 95%	9 DAYS of school	45 lessons
was 90%	19 DAYS of school	95 lessons
was 85%	29 DAYS of school	145 lessons
was 80%	38 DAYS of school	190 lessons
was 75%	48 DAYS of school	240 lessons

If your attendance during the school year is **100%** you will lose **0 days** and miss **0 lessons**!

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A reminder in our final half term of the academic year the importance of strong attendance and punctuality. We recognise the clear link between strong attendance and students attainment when it comes to exams. We have updated our website so Parents/Carers can access this information: <https://www.notredameliverpool.com/attendance/>

Click on the link above to view our full attendance and punctuality expectations as well as reminders for what to do if your child has an appointment or is unwell during the school day.

We have some exciting attendance and punctuality rewards coming up this term , watch this space for details over the next week!

Behavioural Expectation Reminders – School Uniform and Equipment

A smart uniform encourages a sense of community and develops a sense of pride and self-respect.

We have been conducting strict Uniform and Equipment checks on the 'Blue Line' as students arrive into school in the morning to ensure all our students begin the day in the correct uniform and have everything they need to support their learning. A huge thank you to Parents and Carers for your continued support to ensure all students maintain these high standards. Uniform and equipment checks will continue next week.

For a reminder of our uniform and equipment requirements, see below or visit our [website here](#) for more detailed guidance.

REMEMBER!
UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Notre Dame Full Uniform includes:

✓ Tie

✓ Jumper

✓ Grey Socks

✓ Blazer

✓ Smart Grey Trousers / Skirt

✓ Black Shoes

REMEMBER!
EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

ARE THEY READY TO LEARN?

2 Black or Blue pens

Colouring pencils

Pencils

Eraser

Sharpener

Ruler

School bag big enough to hold A4 size documents / files

School planner (Y7) or Timetable (provided by school)

REMEMBER!
UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Notre Dame Full Year 7 PE Kit includes:

✓ Navy & Gold branded polo top

OR

✓ Navy & Gold half zip tracksuit top

✓ Navy socks

✓ Navy shorts or leggings with college branding OR NO logo/branding

OR

✓ Navy trackuit bottoms - NO logo/branding

Year 7 students will wear PE kit all day on their timetabled PE day.
Students must not 'mix & match' their PE kit with their ordinary school uniform.

REMEMBER!
UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Notre Dame PE Kit (Year 8+) includes:

✓ College branded navy and royal blue polo shirt.

✓ College branded navy skirt, skort or shorts.

✓ College branded hoodie (Optional).

✓ Navy leggings (Optional) – must be plain navy with no writing/logos/branding

✓ Navy socks

Students must not 'mix & match' their P.E kit with their ordinary school uniform.

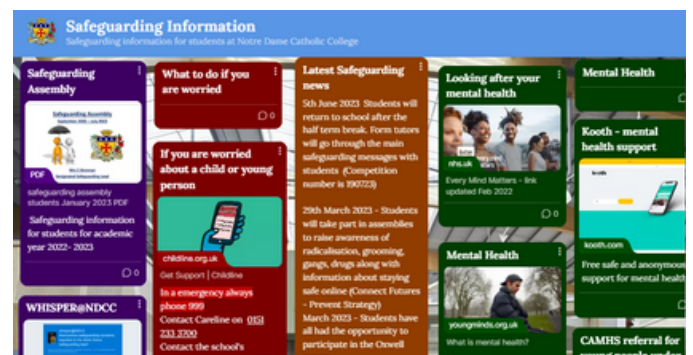
We have a range of pre-loved uniform items available for Parents / Carers who may need to replace uniform items for their child. If you would like to find out more about this you can contact our school chaplain Miss Wall directly and discreetly for further support and guidance. (Email: rwall18.341@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk)

Childhood Day – keeping children safe

NSPCC's Childhood Day is a national event to raise awareness and funds to support the charity's goal to keep children safe. This coincided with our focus this week on reminding all our students of the important Safeguarding messages that we share to empower each of our students to know what it means to be safe, how to recognise warning signs or what to do if they or someone close to them is in danger from harm either through abuse, bullying or criminal activity.

Students spent time in their form groups going through our main Safeguarding messages and were reminded who our Safeguarding Team is and where they can find more information online.

[Visit our Safeguarding page here for further details.](#)



Healthcare message



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SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

If you feel a child is at risk (suffering harm, neglect or abuse) Any member of the public can contact Careline on 0151 233 3700 or Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help:

Anxiety UK
03444775774 (Helpline)
075374160905 (Text)

Childline
0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

Papyrus Hotline (Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)
0800 068 4141 07786209697 (text)

The Mix (Support & Advice for under 25s)
0808 068 4994 85258 (Text THEMIX)

Young Minds
0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)
85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

Young Stonewall Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ
0800 050 2020

Samaritans Support for anyone who needs to talk
116 123 (Call)

Bullybusters
0800 169 6928
Please refer to the school website for further contact

REPORTING AN ISSUE ON SOCIAL MEDIA - A GUIDE

[Visit this guide here.](#)

If you feel a child is at risk (suffering harm, neglect or abuse) Any member of the public can contact Careline on 0151 233 3700 or Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010



<https://ypas.org.uk/services/whats-on-calendar/>



DOMESTIC ABUSE/VIOLENCE

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance. You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone. This will enable police to respond. Women's Aid 0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline) Men's Advice Line 0808 801 0327 Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs AM Costello
Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs E Brennan

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year
Mr A McVerry – Leadership – SENCO

PC P Wood – School Safer Police Officer
Miss H McCullen – Leadership/Alternative Provision
Mrs P Shrimpton – Attendance Officer
Mrs K Sweeney – Special Educational Needs
Miss C Lee Y7, Ms R Glorman Y8, Mrs S Doran Y9, Mrs J Littleboy Y10, Mrs E Garvey Y11 – Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/