

19 June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Summer Term Letter**

We hope that the term is going well for everyone and thought we could take this opportunity to communicate some information to help you feel informed about certain aspects of our school life. Our InTouch magazine continues to showcase many of the wonderful things we get up to at St Aidan's so please do look out for this in the coming days as well.

### **Lockdown Procedure**

As you know, we experienced a full school lockdown a few weeks ago. Fortunately, it became apparent that the risk was minimal but, acting on the information we received at the time, the school lockdown was the appropriate response. Although no school ever wishes to find itself in a lockdown situation it did provide us with the opportunity to reflect on the process and look at what refinements could be made. We received 74 pieces of feedback from staff, parents, and students and have been through each comment making sure we can answer the queries or make changes to the policy where concerns were raised, or recommendations suggested. As the ongoing work we have done around this has been recognised as a document of best practice, we have been asked to share this with other local schools to ensure everyone benefits from our knowledge and experience of health and safety practices. Please be reassured that the health, safety, wellbeing and safeguarding of all our students and staff remains our highest priority.

### **Website**

We are pleased to let you know that our new website is on track to be launched in September 2025. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work put into this by our marketing team and staff from the school and the Trust and look forward to seeing the finished product which should be easier to navigate and provide you with relevant up to date information at your fingertips.

### **Curriculum**

Since last October the school has been engaged in a huge piece of work around redesigning the St Aidan's curriculum. The changes we are making will ensure that each subject is intelligently sequenced so that specific knowledge and skills build from one phase to another. This secures a deep understanding of the content being learnt and prepares students for what comes next. We are also embedding opportunities to develop literacy skills into all our subject learning journeys which will engage students in activities designed to promote written and spoken language. Underpinned by the National Curriculum, our new curriculum is carefully constructed to create intrigue and interest, and to ignite in our students a passion for learning which they will carry through into their future careers. As well as being rich in knowledge, the curriculum imparts the skills that are needed for young people to achieve the very best academic outcomes which will support them to succeed in all aspects of life. The curriculum will be available on our new website from September so you can see what your child is learning at every stage of their education and also see how you can support their learning at home.

### **Exams**

We want to thank you all for your support during our external exam series for years 11 and 13. The students have been incredible, and we are so very proud of each and every one of them. However, we recognise that this is an equally stressful time for all parents and carers so want to acknowledge how appreciative we are of the care and

support you have given to your children over the past few weeks; thank you again for being on this journey with us!

### Stakeholder Feedback

At St Aidan's we value all feedback that we are given, especially when it is constructive and intended to support us in our work to drive our school forward and ensure we provide our students with the best educational experiences possible. Although most feedback we receive is sent with respect and professionalism, some staff are still reporting instances of verbal abuse and unkind accusations. Please can we ask that parents and carers always treat all staff with respect so that we can ensure we work in harmony to support every child to reach their full potential. This includes negative comments being made about the school or individual staff on social media which can be very hurtful and go against all that St Aidan's stands for as a school built with strong values linked to our Church foundation and the Christian faith.

In the coming weeks we will be sending out our annual parent/carer questionnaire. This will be an opportunity for you to provide feedback on certain aspects of the school and will be used to help us analyse those things we do well and those things you feel we could do better at. Feedback for the questionnaire will feed into our school development plan and help us consider policies and practices for the future.

### Senior Leadership Team

As we look forward to the next academic year, we are delighted to share with you our new senior leadership team structure. More details of the specific roles and responsibilities for each SLT member will be available on our new website along with all other staff roles from September 2025.

Headteacher	Mrs Siân Dover
Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum & Quality of Education	Mrs Lizzie Stockton-Pitt
Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral & Safeguarding	Mrs Frances Johnston
Deputy Headteacher - School Improvement & Growth	Mr Tristan Hainsworth
Assistant Headteacher - Learning Inclusion	Mr Kristian Shanks
Assistant Headteacher - Teaching & Learning	Mrs Maggie Gee
Assistant Headteacher - Sixth Form	Mrs Kim Orton
Assistant Headteacher - Personal Development	Mr Dave Holdsworth
Assistant Headteacher - Behaviour, Attitudes & Attendance	Mr Geoff Huband

We have an extremely busy few weeks to see us to the end of term with exams, trips, visits, sports days, concerts, awards evenings, careers events, transition days, external reviews, fieldwork, fixtures, and much more. However, the focus is still very much on learning, and we value your support in ensuring your children attend school every day, fully equipped, in correct uniform and wearing their school lanyard.

Your sincerely



Mrs Siân Dover  
Headteacher