



# St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College



Biddick Lane, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 8AF

Tel: (0191) 561 3810 Fax: (0191) 415 3801 Email: [school@strobertofnewminster.co.uk](mailto:school@strobertofnewminster.co.uk)

**Head Teacher:** Mr. D. Juric  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr. G. Moorhouse

19<sup>th</sup> August 2019

## Pastoral Update

Dear Parent / Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the continued support you gave to the Pastoral team during the last academic year and to wish all pupils, parents and carers a restful and relaxing final two weeks of the Summer holidays.

### Houses and Awards

This year, for the second year in a row, St Godric Finchale House pupils led by their Head of House Mrs McHale gained the most achievement points in the school. This was a fantastic achievement by the whole group, every pupil in the House contributed in some way towards their winning total and the pupils were rewarded with a party on the final day to thank them for their efforts. I am sure the other Heads of House and their pupils will show a renewed determination to ensure St Godric Finchale does not make it four in a row next year. I would encourage all parents and carers to continue to ask your children to work hard to gain as many achievement points as they can for themselves and their respective Houses when we return in September.

A large number of pupils from all the Houses had their efforts recognised with certificates and awards at the end of year assemblies and this positive affirmation of hard work and dedication was a lovely way to end the term following activities week.

### Attendance

- The overall school attendance at the end of the academic year 2018/19 has shown a good improvement on last year. This has been achieved because parents and carers have supported their child and the school in our drive to improve overall attendance to enable all children to make the progress they should from years 7 -11.
- Please note that if your child is absent from school you must contact the attendance team by telephone, **not text**, by 9.00am on the first day of absence and then every day they are off school following that. A note explaining absence is then also required on their return to school and must be handed to their tutor.



## Appointments

- Can I remind parents and carers that appointments made during the school day should be made **at least 24 hours** before, so that school procedure can be followed correctly. Parents and carers should inform school by writing a note in their child's planner. Your child will then show this note to their Head of House who will then authorise a pink-slip so they can attend the appointment.
- Children are not allowed to leave the premises without a pink slip and parents and carers must always come into the main reception to pick their child up to take them to their appointment. Parents and carers should never walk down to the student entrance to pick up their child.
- Parents and Carers should not contact their child by mobile phone to arrange appointments during the school day, all communication of this nature should always come through the correct channels in school.

## Transport

- Timetables for the scholars' bus services for the next academic year are available to view on the school website. If parents and carers have any issues with the service provided by the school buses please report directly to Nexus as well as informing school, by contacting Mr Green.

## Uniform

- As usual, this year many visitors have commented on how well turned out the students are and I am very grateful to all parents and carers for your continued support with this. Unfortunately, during the final half term we had some students wearing trainers, too much make-up, fake-tan or jewellery or coming to school with extreme hairstyle, which resulted in students completing sanctions for failure to follow school rules. I would be grateful if everyone can ensure that all students, without exception, adhere to the school's expectations in this area. If students do not meet these expectations, they risk being placed in inclusion until the matter is resolved. We would much rather their year starts in a positive manner and this can only happen with the support of our parents and carers with the issues mentioned above.
- Please note – all ear piercings are not permitted for school, regardless of the time period of 'new' piercings. Please ensure that any recent piercings are removed.
- A full list of uniform, equipment and expectations are attached to this letter and these are on the school website and available in the planner in September.

Once again thank you for your support and the Pastoral team looks forward to continuing to support your children when they return in September.

Kind regards,

Mr McHale

Senior Assistant Headteacher: Pastoral



