

28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear parents and carers,

## **Route map back towards business as usual (social distancing) from Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020: St. John's School and College**

Throughout the period of the Covid-19 pandemic the Charity as a whole has remained open for some learners; and more children, young people and adults (CYPA) returned on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The School and College have plans cautiously to re-integrate more CYPA in the period April 27<sup>th</sup>–May 22<sup>nd</sup>. By **Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>** our aim is for **business as usual/social distancing (BAUSD)** with four important caveats:

1. Staffing levels remain stable and hopefully increase
2. Department for Education and Public Health England guidance does not materially change requiring tighter lockdown conditions
3. Infection levels in the general population continue to decline
4. We do not experience an outbreak of Covid-19 in our residential houses.

In the event that these optimistic hopes turn out to be reversed it may lead to a slowing down in the progress towards business as usual/social distancing. We are using the term 'business as usual/social distancing' (BAUSD) because we believe that society in general, and St. John's in particular, will be living and working with social distancing for a considerable period of time to come and we are planning now to adapt to this new reality.

The INSET day on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 has been postponed.

In the period April 27<sup>th</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be:

- a) Steadily increasing the numbers of CYPA on site each week and re-opening the other residential houses
- b) Increasing the sophistication of the outreach work we are doing with CYPA and their families
- c) Trialing and testing social distancing measures on site such as: one-way systems; redesigned classrooms; staggered starts and finishes to the day and for lunchtime; using more spaces for teaching; more outdoor learning; new staff rotas; new routines in our homes etc.

Registered Charity No. 1061001

St. John's School & College

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From **June 1<sup>st</sup>** BAUSD will mean:

- A. The vast majority of CYPA will return to school, college and their residential setting following a revision to their risk assessment
- B. Their timetables are likely to be modified and may initially involve elements of part- time hours/staggered starts etc. Senior leaders will be in touch to have individual conversations with you on this matter
- C. We will continue to adhere to Section F of your CYPA's Education, Health and Care Plan as far as possible in these circumstances; our main focus will though be on Section E
- D. Parents and Carers who choose not to send their CYPA to school or college, for appropriate reasons, will not be treated detrimentally and will be supported by remote learning. We will work constructively with families in this category during the rest of the academic year to support them to return their CYPA to school/college before July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

If you are experiencing serious behavioural or safeguarding issues with your CYPA during this period of time, please make us aware of this immediately when we make daily contact with you. Where CYPA are due to leave in July and you wish them to stay on beyond their expected leave date, because of the disruption caused by Covid-19, please talk to our Transitions Team urgently.

Sadly, it is very unlikely that we will be having a College Graduation this year in its usual format and leaving assemblies at the School are likely to be different and low key. More details will follow shortly.

Finally, we would remind you to pay close attention to the Public Health England guidelines around the symptoms for Covid-19 and to keep your son or daughter at home if they are symptomatic, for the required length of time.

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With all my best wishes in these difficult times,



Simon  
**CEO**

April 28<sup>th</sup> 2020

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