



# St Peter's Catholic High School

*A Specialist Visual Arts College*



BRO/ABA

20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to bring to your attention some Pastoral matters which have caused some concerns in school recently.

## Online Safety

Recently we have had a number of issues related to 'Apps' such as 'Snapchat', 'YouNow' and 'ooVoo'. These Apps are very popular with our pupils but they can leave young people very vulnerable if they are not careful. It is really important that you are vigilant to make sure that your children are not communicating with people they do not know and potentially giving out personal information. There is lots of advice available on the school website in the 'Parentinfo – from CEOP' section. Also, the CEOP and 'Thinkyouknow' websites have lots of really useful information.

## Antisocial Behaviour

The local Police in the Orrell, Pemberton and other surrounding areas have asked us to pass on their concerns over the ongoing problem of antisocial behaviour from large groups of young people from all over the Wigan area who congregate in these areas at the weekends. As ever the vast majority of our pupils do not get involved in this sort of behaviour but I thought it best to pass on the Police's concerns so that you can take appropriate steps to ensure that your children are safe.

## Attendance and Punctuality

We have reviewed the GCSE results from the last two years in relation to the pupils' attendance. It is very clear that attendance has a significant effect on pupil's chances of achieving their best outcomes at the end of Year 11. We set out a whole school target of 97% attendance. The reason for this is that below 97%, the effects of lower attendance on GCSE grades become much more pronounced.

After the Easter holidays we will be introducing a staged approach to our intervention for pupils whose attendance is a cause for concern. The stages in this intervention will be as follows:-

Stage 1 Pupil's attendance falls below 97% - Form Tutor will monitor attendance.

Stage 2 Pupil's attendance continues to fall - You will receive a phone call to discuss the concerns.

Stage 3 Pupil's attendance falls below 95% - You will be invited into school to meet with your child's Head of Year.

Stage 4 Pupil's attendance falls below 92% - A 'Early Help' strategy is set up with possible referrals to external agencies .

Stage 5 Pupil's attendance falls below 90% - A referral to the School's Education Welfare Officer will take place.

Howards Lane, Orrell, Wigan WN5 8NU

Tel: 01942 747693 Fax: 01942 747 694

Email: [enquiries@admin.saintpetershigh.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@admin.saintpetershigh.wigan.sch.uk)

Web: [www.saintpetershigh.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintpetershigh.wigan.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. A. McGlown M.A. (Oxon) N.P.O.H



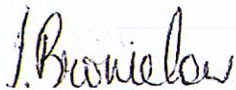
All pupils regularly have stickers in their journals showing their current attendance. Please use this as your guide to see which stage your son/daughter is at.

For pupils who reach stage 3, 4 or 5 we will be asking for a supporting letter from a medical professional in order to authorise any absences. Otherwise, any absences will be recorded as unauthorised. We are advised by the Education Authority that they will issue Education Penalty Notices for anyone with 10 sessions (5 School days) unauthorised absences from this point. Whilst we would make every effort to support you and your son/daughter to improve their attendance, the use of these Penalty Notices cannot be ruled out.

We feel it is very important to give every one of our pupils the best possible chance of achieving their full potential and good attendance is undoubtedly a significant factor in this.

Hopefully we can work together to make sure that your son/daughter's attendance at school is as high as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Bromelow'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I'.

I. Bromelow (Mr)  
Assistant Head Teacher (Pastoral)