



9 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

***Return to face-to face learning for all pupils***

*Thank you so much for your continued support in this unprecedented time.*

*We are delighted to share that we will be able to move forward with a return to face-to-face learning for all pupils from shortly after half-term.*

- Years 7, 8, 9 will continue to be taught at St. Bede Catholic School Campus.*
- Years 10,11,12, 13 will be taught by our staff at Sunderland College Campus, Washington.*
- Lunch including a hot meal option, will be available as usual for pupils at Sunderland College campus and will continue to be available at St. Bede's site,*
- Pupils at Sunderland College Campus, Washington will be transported to the site on school buses*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues at Sunderland College for their support and look forward to working with them. Sunderland College students WILL NOT be on site at Washington campus it will be available for the sole use of our pupils. These arrangements will currently be in place until at least Christmas.*

*In terms of longer-term plans, as you know we are communicating regularly with the Department for Education (DfE) who are working hard behind the scenes assessing the extend of the issues in our school building and formulating plans as to how we move forward. As you will appreciate this is a logistically complex issue and all parties want to ensure that all factors are considered and that plans are robust before we move forward. As soon as we have further information from the DfE we will share this.*

*I would like to thank both our pupils and their parents and carers for their patience and understanding and the school staff team, who are working so hard in difficult circumstances, and continue to amaze me with their positive can-do attitudes. Our people make our school community not the buildings and we are delighted to see that sense of community is still evident each day.*

*Best wishes*

**Frances Cessford,  
Headteacher**

