



3rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week our community reflection and learning for our students. In celebration of the Word, our students have been deeply engaging with Jesus's teaching around "who is my neighbour", beautifully aligning this with Black History Month. We have been exploring the powerful words of Barack Obama: 'Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we have been waiting for. We are the change we seek.' These words resonate particularly strongly given the challenging events of the past 24 hours. Jesus's teachings remind us of the critical importance of bringing unity through love, not hate, and fostering understanding rather than mistrust. Our students have been reflecting on these profound messages, considering how we can actively contribute to creating a more compassionate and inclusive community.

Attendance

I would like to draw your attention to our current attendance focus. We are committed to working collaboratively with parents to improve our students' attendance. Here are our current year group attendance figures:

- Year 7: 97.5%
- Year 8: 92.6%
- Year 9: 92.9%
- Year 10: 92.7%
- Year 11: 90.3%

We kindly urge all parents to continue supporting us in our efforts to improve attendance across all year groups.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our uniform standards high. As the colder weather creeps in, a small minority of our students have begun to arrive at school wearing hoodies and caps. Please can I gently remind you and students that both hoodies and caps are not part of the St Gabriel's school uniform. If a student arrives at school wearing either of these items they will be asked to hand them over until the end of the school day. As with our mobile phone policy, if a student complies and hands the item over no sanction will be issued and the student can collect their belonging at the end of the school day. If a student refuses to hand over the item, this will be address in accordance with our policy and the student will receive a day in our internal isolation unit, The Reflections Room. Again, we thank you for your support with this, in reminding your child of the expectations regarding our school uniform.

There will also be an opportunity to discuss uniform at our St Gabriel's Family Forum, which will take on Thursday 16th October 2025. Information regarding this even has been sent out to parents separately.

Confirmation

On Wednesday 22nd October Sister Linda Pergega will be leading a Year 8 assembly on confirmation. This assembly will introduce the Sacramental programme of Confirmation to your child and explain its importance. Now is a fantastic time to discuss with your child about being confirmed. More information will follow in the

coming weeks that will go into more detail about the Sacramental programme of Confirmation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Forkin, our Lay Chaplain.

College Open evenings

Holy Cross

Saturday 4th October 2025, 10am - 1pm

Monday 13th October 2025, 5pm - 8pm

Book tickets online through the college website.

Bury College

Tuesday 7th October 2025, 5.00 – 7.15pm

Thursday 16th October 2025, 5.00 – 7.15pm

Book tickets online through the college website.

The Sixth Form Bolton

Wednesday 8 October 2025, 5.00pm-8.00pm

Saturday 22 November, 10.00am-1.30pm

Book tickets online through the college website

Hopwood Hall Rochdale

Saturday 4 October, 10:30am – 1:30pm

Wednesday 22 October, 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Register through college website

Bolton College

Wednesday 15th October, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Register through college website



Year 7

Year 7 Welcome Mass

I would like to remind all our year 7 pupils and their parents/carers about our Year 7 welcome mass, on Thursday 9th October at Guardian Angels RC Church beginning at 6pm.

Year 7 Settling in Parental Meetings

Furthermore, on the morning of Friday 10th October, we would like to invite all parents/carers who are able to, in to school to meet with your pupil's form tutor. Please make your appointment through the school cloud.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Braithwaite
Headteacher