



14<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Year 7 Retreat Days – “Walking Together”**

Dear Parent and Carer,

At St Edward’s School we believe in the formation of the whole person; we want students to grow socially, morally and spiritually as well as academically. We therefore seek to offer students opportunities for retreat and reflection at key points during their time at school.

This year we will be taking all Year 7 students to St Mary’s Roman Catholic Church for one day in order to explore the theme of ‘walking together’. We will walk from school to the church, where we will be met by representatives of the church community who will welcome the students and lead us in a short act of worship. Students will then take part in a number of workshops that will provide them with time to get to know their tutor and their tutor group better. Through the course of the day, students will get the opportunity to reflect upon their first experiences of secondary school and their hopes and fears for the journey ahead of them.

Students will need to bring a packed lunch, although lunch will be provided for those who receive a free school meal. We will also ensure that alternative transport is available for any students who would be unable to complete the walk. We will arrive back at school in time for the end of the normal school day. Students will be expected to wear normal school uniform, and we would ask that they are prepared for the weather and bring a coat if it looks like rain or suncream if it looks to be hot.

Please see the table below to find out which tutor groups are going on which days:

| 19 <sup>th</sup> September (7I) | 26 <sup>th</sup> September (7a) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7CFM                            | 7BP                             |
| 7HNA                            | 7JHA                            |
| 7SLE                            | 7NDG                            |
|                                 | 7RH                             |

We will also be using the day to do some preparations for the **Welcome Celebration**, which is a very important event in the life of the school where new students, parents/carers, staff and governors are formally welcomed into the community. It is also an opportunity to meet with your child’s form tutor. The Welcome Celebration will be held in the Sports Hall on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm and we hope to see you all there.

If you have any further questions regarding the Year 7 Retreat Days please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chris Farrow

Assistant Headteacher