



# St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

*A High Performing Specialist Technology & Music College  
with Leading Edge Status*

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B.A. (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, MSc, MEd

September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to the start of the new school year. I hope that you and your families have enjoyed the summer break and are looking forward to another successful year for your children as members of our school community.

We are delighted with our GCSE results, with many outstanding individual performances but especially because the pupils matured into lovely young adults who will have a positive impact on the world. This year there were four new school performance measures and it is testimony to the hard work of the pupils and staff that we excelled in all four.

The school has a website and is a great source of information about the life of the school. I would recommend that you regularly visit the website to read about all the great work that goes on. You can also follow us on twitter @SEACHS1961.

Just to remind parents that our annual Open Evening will be held next Wednesday 28 September 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm and pupils will finish at 1.00 pm.

Attendance at school is clearly one of the most important contributory factors in ensuring our pupils excel academically, personally, socially, morally and spiritually. Could I politely ask parents to avoid taking pupils out of school during term time, as national and local guidelines now state that family holidays in term time must be 'unauthorised'. Holiday dates for this year (2016-17) and next year (2017-18) are on the school website.

Parents will be aware of the coverage in the national press about the effect of energy drinks on young people and the adverse side effects they bring. Some cans have four times the recommended caffeine intake for children! I would like to ask parents 'for their continued support in banning energy drinks entirely, any pupils with energy drinks in school will have them confiscated.

Traffic congestion in the vicinity of the school remains a problem. As the surrounding roads are so narrow, our designated spot for dropping off and picking up pupils is the car park at St Oswald's Church. **I would kindly ask parents to avoid driving into Rookery Avenue and/or using the school car park** (especially before morning registration) as a courtesy and safety measure to those pupils who walk to school and use this entrance. When after-school events are taking place, the tennis courts at the rear of school (accessed via St Oswald's Road) provide a spacious "overspill" car park.



In my welcome on the website I state that if you have any queries or questions concerning your son or daughter you are sure to find a warm and courteous welcome and I can assure you that when you come in to school this will be the case. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or if you have ideas of how our school can continue to improve.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "M.J. Dumican". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

M J Dumican  
HEADTEACHER