

# St Joseph's Catholic Academy

**Headteacher: Mr J Crowe**

Chair of Local Governing Committee: Mrs G Kilgour

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10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parent

Please accept my apologies for the inconvenience around the closure of the school due to a lack of water pressure for the second time. Our pump system which pushes water around the building has failed again. A temporary fix was applied by engineers on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December but that fix failed this morning. The result of this was a slow loss of water to all areas of the building meaning toilets were not operational in multiple areas of the building.

Engineers arrived on site early this morning to fix our system and initial indications meant we were in a position to open the school as water was moving around the building albeit under lower pressure than usual. However, the arrival of further engineers changed the view of this situation and we were told that water would soon run out. The pressure had dropped significantly and we were unable to replenish it.

Our intention is to always keep the school open as it is the best place for students and closing the school is a significant decision which will only be taken as a last resort. I would like to apologise again for the late notice, but the situation worsened today as more information became available and it became clear school was not able to operate safely.

The engineers have continued to work on site this morning and have replaced the control system for the pumps resolving one of the issues affecting our supply. On further investigation, it was identified that 2 of the 3 pumps which drive our school water supply have failed. Replacements for these have been ordered and expected installation will be this week. We currently have one pump operating and it is now providing a stable water supply to the school. We have also invested in developing a backup solution in the hope we can avoid a repeat of this situation.

School is scheduled to open again tomorrow morning as normal. I hope that this will be the final solution to the problem and we can return to normality in the days before the Christmas break.

Thank you for your understanding,

**Mr J Crowe**  
Headteacher

*Caritas Christi Urget Nos — The love of Christ spurs us on*

