

M.

The
McAuley
Catholic High School
and Sixth Form
DONCASTER

A young bird, possibly a sparrow or similar small bird, is shown in profile, facing left. It has a blue beak and is covered in brown and white mottled feathers. The bird is standing on a surface of small, multi-colored pebbles or gravel. The background is a continuation of this gravelly surface.

Fledge
May (3) i52

M. May (3) i52

We have all had to take our first steps. I don't remember mine (not because it was before recorded time before anyone says!) but I clearly remember, over a number of weeks, watching our children pulling themselves up...standing, then holding onto something, uncertainly putting one foot forward, wobbling...and then falling over.

They always picked themselves up and tried again and again until they established a new way for themselves. A lifetime of crawling was over; a new and exciting world of faster movement and a different and higher perspective on life lay ahead.

I don't know if this is a useful metaphor for the position that we find ourselves in at the moment but stick with it!

At McAuley we are now preparing for baby steps; small steps that will get us on our feet.

Be assured that we are planning for a Recovery Curriculum which will allow as many students from Y10 and Y12 to attend school as is safely possible taking account of all the necessary measures that we need to take to give parents the confidence to send their children to school.

In ensuring this we will continue to work within the guidance sent from the DFE. (The latest statement below came in on Friday afternoon.)

“From 1 June at the earliest, secondary schools will also be asked to provide some face-to-face support for pupils in year 10 and year 12 facing exams next year to supplement their remote education. We will be working with sector representatives over the coming week to develop models of how this could operate, and this will be published along with further guidance for secondary schools shortly.”

We are also working with the Local Authority who issued this statement this afternoon.

SCHOOL RE-OPENING UPDATE

We're working closely with schools across the borough on arrangements around the proposed school re-openings.

It's been agreed by everyone that we will take a Doncaster-specific approach to the situation and do what is best for the children of Doncaster.

Schools will only open when everyone is confident that the relevant plans are in place to ensure the safety of staff, children, young people and families.

The final decision on when and how schools open will ultimately be made by each individual school with the best interests of their staff and pupils in mind. They will continue to update parents of their plans.

Schools continue to offer provision to children of key workers and vulnerable children

We are really looking forward to seeing our young people again. We miss them. The school does feel hollow and soulless without them filling the space with their energy, noise, busyness and laughter.

As the situation and guidance continues to change we will keep you up to date. We ask you to keep an eye on our social media accounts and the school website.

Thank you for your continued patience, cooperation and support in this important matter.

With every best wish and prayers for you and yours until we can fly high together!

God Bless and keep safe.
John Rooney

Cover photo – Mistle Thrush chick which I nearly trod on!