



HEADTEACHER: MELISSA ROBERTS  
LONDON ROAD, TRENT VALE, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST4 5NT

RG/sb/6thForm/letters2023-24 Encounter Retreat

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

We have organised a Retreat opportunity for Year 12 Students from Wednesday 24th January to Friday 26th January. We have chosen the 24th – 26th January 2024 to conjunction with the Sixth Form teachers to ensure minimal disruption to students' studies. This retreat is called 'Encounter' and originally comes from the Christian Brothers in Ireland. Encounter is a wonderful experience for your son/daughter to step away from the everyday stress and strain of life and to take some time at this crucial part of their journey to take stock and reflect and what is important to them in their life. Encounter is run primarily by a small group of year 13 students who enjoyed Encounter so much, they have volunteered to run it for a new group of students. These students are supported and coordinated by Mrs Gradwell, Mrs Cirino and Mr Selby.

This has been a few years like no other for our students; we believe it is more important than ever to create a space for our sixth form to retreat from this 'new normal' and to have the time to reflect before their exams. We have decided to continue to use a local conference centre called Cloverley hall in Whitchurch. This is a professional retreat and conference centre, with en-suite rooms and excellent food. The students will have access to extensive grounds which will form part of the retreat programme and will be open to students in their free time.

We have 30 places to offer to Year 12's on this retreat. Due to the high demand this will be on a first come first served basis. The below reply slip needs to be returned to Mr Selby via the Exams Office or the PIP. Places will then be allocated on ParentPay. The cost of the Retreat is £175. We ask that the £25 non-refundable deposit be paid by 16th October, with the remainder payable by January 9th 2024. If you have any problems with payments or any other questions then please do let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Gradwell

Mr T Selby

Telephone: 01782 848008, email: [sjcollege@stjosephsmail.com](mailto:sjcollege@stjosephsmail.com) [www.stjosephstrentvale.com](http://www.stjosephstrentvale.com)

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Encounter 2024

I agree / do not agree to my son/daughter taking part in Encounter 2024

Name of Student: .....Form:

Signed: .....(Parent/Guardian)

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