



ST PETER'S  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
AIDED SCHOOL

13th February 2019

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

**Climate Change Protest – Friday 15th February 2019**

I am always encouraged and delighted when our students discover a cause that they are passionate about and seek to make a positive difference to.

There are numerous examples each term at St. Peter's of how students respond to things they consider unjust in the world. Our students regularly make a positive difference to these situations. Some of the notable examples are our environmentally focused Green Team and a wide array of local, national and international charity fund raising projects that students identify as causes they wish to make a positive difference to.

These are just some of the ways that students at St. Peter's are encouraged to have a voice and develop leadership experience and skills, supported by our focus on character. Our focus on character as you will know from our Character Compass seeks to develop wisdom, courage, compassion and community.

We promote many opportunities as a school in ways that help and guide students to make a positive difference. On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February we will invite students if they wish to, to sign a petition in support of the climate change protest. We will send this to the relevant organisations to register our voice as a school.

Whilst I understand the strength of feeling over the very important issue of climate change, I urge our students against walking out of school on Friday and would ask for Parents and Carers to support us in this. If students leave the site for the protest, there is a safeguarding issue as we will not be able to ensure the safety of students if they are off-site during school hours. In the interests of safeguarding we will not allow students to leave the site unless it is for the usual prearranged permission such as a medical appointment. Any student who does not attend school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February because they are involved in the climate change protest will receive an unauthorised absence.

Leaving school for the protest will also disrupt learning and our charity focused non-school uniform fund raising day that takes place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

I hope that you will understand that the safety of our students is our priority and that by providing an opportunity to sign a petition we are enabling students to have a voice on this important issue.

Yours sincerely

Phil Randall  
Headteacher

Headteacher: Phil Randall  
Quarry Lane, Exeter EX2 5AP  
Telephone: 01392 204764 Fax: 01392 204763  
school@spexe.org www.spexe.org

