



De La Salle
School

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1 April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parental Update – 1st April 2021

In the blink of an eye the Spring term has come and gone, as has the warm weather! The past term has, like the past twelve months, been difficult and challenging but thanks to the combined efforts of staff students and of course you, the parents and carers, we have managed to maintain education, whether virtually or in person, throughout the pandemic. So a big thank you for your support with this.

After Easter

Over the past few weeks, standards of uniform have slipped, particularly with the older students and particularly in relation to PE kit. Up until now we have been very accommodating and not challenged the students over this, as we understand the pandemic has created problems in sourcing kit etc.

However, after Easter, we expect all students to be fully compliant with school uniform, including PE kit. Students will still be able to come into school for the day in their kit, but will be expected to have DLS kit and blazer. Mr Hale has written separately to clarify these expectations. Your support is much needed in helping to address this.

Ofsted

As you will be aware, we had a visit from Ofsted on Tuesday (just what we all needed). This was not part of the usual Ofsted inspection process (called Section 5 inspections), this was one of the many Section 8 inspections to check whether “leaders and managers are taking effective action to provide education in the current circumstances.” Section 8 inspections do not provide graded judgements e.g. good / outstanding etc instead, in a few weeks, we will receive a letter that will state whether we are or are not taking effective action, followed by 2 or 3 next steps for the school.

Unfortunately I am not allowed to say how the visit went until I receive the letter to send out to parents. However, as a school we were pleased with the visit and want to say a huge thank you to those parents who completed the Parent View questionnaire which the inspectors commented on being so positive.

Face Coverings

The government is looking to review its guidance on recommending face coverings in classrooms. I will update you when I have that guidance, but for now our approach remains to strongly recommend their use.

Home Testing

Students who are doing home testing should have received their next batch of tests for over the holidays. As always, please inform the school if your child tests positive. We will be carrying out contact tracing until 7th April for any positive cases. After that, though it is important we are informed, we will not need to trace any school based contacts.

Holidays and Food

The LA have asked that we share the attached timetables for virtual activities and food provision that they have on offer over Easter. Details of how to access them is also included

A much shorter Parental Update than previous weeks which is hopefully a sign of things slowly moving back to normality. I hope that you and your family are able to take time to rest and relax over the coming Easter holiday and enjoy the gradual relaxation of lockdown restrictions. We look forward to welcoming everyone back at the usual time on Monday 19th April.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Rannard
Headteacher