



# De La Salle School

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Dear Parent / Carer,

## Parental Update 14 – January Return

Firstly, there is no doubt that COVID will have played a part with many families over the holidays but I hope that you were able to enjoy the Christmas break and I wish you and your families a happy and successful new year. Below are a few important pieces of information that I hope you may find useful ahead of our full return tomorrow.

### COVID

As you may well be aware, rates of infection continue to rise in the local area and new temporary national restrictions have been brought in. These include:

- **Testing:** all students were offered a LFT test ahead of school starting back tomorrow.
- **Face coverings:** these are now expected to be worn **in all classrooms** as well as communal areas (apart from those who are exempt). Though we will continue to provide face coverings for those who need them, we have been going through them at around 500 masks a day – this is expensive and not ideal. It would be **really appreciated if parents could ensure students are provided with their own face coverings.**
- **Isolation:** rules on isolation have now also changed so that, if a child tests positive, they can return to school on day 7 if they have a negative Lateral Flow Test on day 6 and day 7. If these are positive they should continue until 2 days of negative tests or see out the full 10-day isolation.
- **Exams:** external exams and assessments planned for January will go ahead.

For the full guidance for schools please visit:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=087da2cb-8e81-43e8-bbe1-cef41feedb8b&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=087da2cb-8e81-43e8-bbe1-cef41feedb8b&utm_content=immediately)

### Remote Learning

Staff will continue to provide remote learning for students who are isolating. Mrs Mulhall will be writing out with further details and a reminder on how and where this can be accessed.

### Uniform Standards

The start of term is a good point to re-emphasise our uniform expectations, details of which were in Mr Hale's letter sent shortly before the end of last term.

## **Year 10 PSHCE**

This half term during PSHCE, the Year 10 students will be covering Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). This includes a range of topics such as relationships and sex expectations, myths, pleasure and challenges, including the impact of the media and pornography. These are obviously important but delicate topics which will be delivered by a dedicated team of staff in line with the government and church requirements.

## **Year 7 Group Changes**

We have made some changes to our teaching groups in Year 7 for the non-core subjects. These are broad streaming (rather than the much tighter setting that we use in our core-subjects) based upon CAT tests and reading ages and assessments over the past term. These are intended to help teachers provide more effective teaching and will not limit or prevent students from accessing the full curriculum.

## **Year 11 Reports**

I apologise that at the start of the year I said Year 11 reports would be out in the final week of Autumn term. I had taken the closing date of the report without factoring in the checking process that takes place. The SLT have been checking the reports over the Christmas holidays and these changes are now being made. This means the reports should be out later this week or the start of next week.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming our students back tomorrow at the usual time and hope infection rates soon fall and some normality can return to schools.

Yours sincerely,

**Andrew Rannard**  
Headteacher