



De La Salle School

Headteacher: Mr P Norris L.LB (Hons), MA, NPQH

Thursday, 1st July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Covid-19 update and end of term arrangements

Covid update:

I wanted to take a moment to remind you of some important information regarding our control measures to help stop the spread of Covid-19.

You may have heard in the media that positive cases in young people have started to rise once again and thousands of students have been told to isolate following close contacts with a confirmed case in school.

While numbers of confirmed cases in our area are still very low, we are now experiencing a small increase in reports of students showing symptoms. It is essential that if your child displays symptoms of Covid-19 that you inform the school immediately. Current guidance from Essex Contact Tracing is that all close contacts of students who have been close contacts of a symptomatic student must isolate pending the result of the confirmatory PCR test. **Please remember that you must not use a Lateral Flow Home Test Kit for symptomatic cases - this must be a PCR test at a test centre or ordered through the NHS website to be delivered to the home for completion. If you are asked to complete a PCR test - please do this ASAP to minimise the impact on isolation periods where possible.**

Isolation in these circumstances is purely a precautionary measure - if the PCR test result is negative, students will return to school. If it is positive, students must continue to isolate for the 10 day isolation period and dates for this will be confirmed in writing by the school. I appreciate that this is hugely disruptive for families but the school is obliged to follow national guidance and the advice given by Essex Test and Trace. We will, of course, keep the school community informed of new positive cases as we have done throughout the pandemic.

End of Term reminder:

Please note that in line with our published term dates, the last day of this academic year is Friday 16th July and school will finish early at 12.00pm. If your child is collected from school, please note the early finish time.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support during what has been a difficult time for everyone. It is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Norris
Headteacher