Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

8 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I will keep my letter short this week.

Over the last twenty months, I have written to parents almost every week. The vast majority of the feedback from this has been positive. Parents have told me they like the regular reminders and 'nudges' even if they relate to school policy and procedures.

As we end this week, I am pleased to share with you that the number of young people with COVID across the school continues to fall rapidly. Whilst this is good news, we cannot afford to be complacent at home or at school.

We have also been asked by Public Health to promote and encourage all parents and carers to ensure that their children take an LFT twice weekly. This in itself is a protective measure, so if you are not doing this, could I please ask you to get into a routine of doing this every Sunday and Wednesday.

A simple way to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID is for students to have their own equipment. Over the weekend could you please check that your child has a pen and a stationery kit ready for Monday.

If your child is absent from school awaiting the result of a PCR test (after a positive LFT), please notify Attendance by email attendance@oaklandscatholicschool.org. Once you have the result of the PCR test, please send a copy of this to Attendance via the same email address and also advise of your child's expected date of return to school.

The weather over the last week or so has been rather mixed so a reminder that footwear should be black, leather, polishable or waterproof. Students should not be wearing boots. The vast majority of students are wearing their Year badges, but if these are lost they will need to purchase a replacement from the Finance Office.

For students that cycle into school, please can you ensure that bicycles are roadworthy, students have reflective jackets, lights and a cycle helmet. More information about the importance of cycle helmets can be found on the school <u>YouTube channel</u>.

I was delighted to receive a number of positive comments from parents, both current and future, about the Open Evening last week. It is lovely to hear people talking effusively about students and staff. Our Open Evening presentations are still available on the school website.





In school this week Mr Jones provided students with an insight into the work of the Young Carers' group, through school assemblies. Young Carers undertake often hidden work in families, looking after parents or siblings whilst juggling the demands of school and still trying to live as teenagers. It is important that we recognise this group and support them where we can.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Matsheller

Mr M Quinn Headteacher