

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust  
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**Headteacher:** Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

11 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The weather this half term has been unusually warm, prompting us to allow students to wear their PE kits on several occasions. This year's weather reminds me of the summer during the COVID lockdown, when temperatures rose in late March and remained high until mid-August. While I am not inclined to transition to a summer uniform by stealth, staff members have noted that students appear to be more comfortable and focused in lighter clothing, which positively impacts their concentration in class.

As we approach the beginning of next week, the forecast indicates more variable weather, yet it is expected to remain warm. Additionally, I am mindful that on Thursday, we will hold a full school Mass, bringing all students together in the hall. Therefore, for the four days next week, students are permitted to continue wearing their school PE kits, without any variations.

Year 10 students participating in practice interviews must dress appropriately for this important experience, and have already received guidance on suitable attire. However, they may change to/from their PE kit for the remainder of the day.

Another reminder for students to take other precautions, for example wearing an appropriate hat at break and lunchtime and ensuring that sun cream has been applied before coming to school. Students should also remember their fobs, and any extra sun cream for re-application during the day.

Hydration in hot weather is also very important. Several students still arrive at school without water bottles, so I would be grateful if you could ensure that your child has a water bottle with them every day. It is also important that they consume sufficient liquid before coming to school. Students can fill their water bottles at the beginning of the day, during break and lunchtime. I am sure you understand that it is not appropriate to have students leaving lessons to fill bottles when there are other opportunities to do this. The school will clearly take a reasonable approach when students request the use of toilet facilities.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Matthew Quinn  
**Headteacher**