

Newsletter

Friday 2nd July 2021

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID self-isolations

Firstly, we would like to thank all parents and carers for your understanding during this latest wave of COVID self-isolations. Most staff here at Notre Dame are parents ourselves and we therefore fully understand the disruption caused by the dreaded phone call notifying you of your child's need to self-isolate. Once again, we assure all parents that every step is taken to fully risk assess possible contacts with the positive case and reduce self-isolations to the fewest possible within the national guidance. To ensure their swiftest possible return to school and to reduce the risk of further transmission, please ensure that students who are sent home to self-isolate do so.

For further information on how and where to receive free COVID tests, click [here](#).

Year 7 Parents' Review Afternoon

Following the abandoned virtual parents' evening last term, we are holding a virtual Year 7 review afternoon with Year 7 Form Tutors, via the SchoolCloud platform on Tuesday 6th July. All Year 7 parents have received instructions on how to register for the event and how to book a slot with your son or daughter's form tutor. Appointments are available from 12.30 to 4.00pm. We thank all Year 7 parents for your patience whilst we addressed the technical issues encountered during the event in May. We hope you find this alternative event informative and helpful.

Year 10 Virtual Parents' Evening

Finally, we will be holding our virtual Year 10 parents' evening between 4.00 and 7.00pm on Thursday 8th July. All Year 10 parents have received details on how to register for the event via the SchoolCloud system and how to book appointments with each of your child's class teachers.

Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy
Headteacher



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Dear Parents / Carers,

In recent weeks, we have seen a rapid rise in Covid-19 cases in Liverpool. Currently Liverpool has rates of 158/100,000 and is on an upward trajectory. The dominant strain of virus in the UK is called the Delta variant and we have seen a steep rise in COVID-19 cases locally. Evidence suggests the Delta variant spreads more easily than previous strains.

As a result, we are requesting that additional measures are brought into schools to slow down the spread of the virus. These controls may cause some disruption to end of year plans that normally take place. Activities such as transition, assemblies, proms and performances may need to be modified and alternative arrangements made. Educational visits may also be impacted by these additional measures. Schools will communicate with parents directly if any of their plans are impacted.

Face Coverings

On the 21st June 2021, we are requesting staff and pupils in Year 7 and above to wear face coverings indoors whilst in school, including in classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained, with the exception of certain lessons such as PE. This is an additional measure to support schools to manage the increased risk of school-based transmission due to increasing cases and is fully supported by central government.

The purpose of wearing a face covering is to minimise the risk of transmitting the virus to other people if you are infectious but don't have symptoms. We know that up to 30% of people with COVID-19 don't experience symptoms, and everyone who has the virus will be infectious in the two days before their symptoms start, so wearing face coverings is one of a range of infection prevention and control measures that have been introduced in schools to protect pupils and staff.

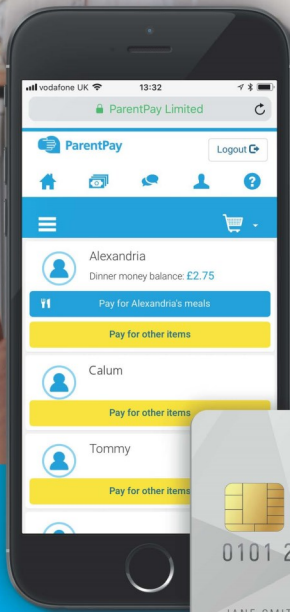
Exemptions for wearing face coverings are still in place and further information about exemptions can be found [here](#).

Any pupil who has one of the conditions on the exemption list will not be expected to wear a face covering whilst in school. Anyone communicating to someone who relies on lip reading will also be exempt from wearing a face covering.

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SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS



Important Contacts

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help

Anxiety UK

03444775774 (Helpline)

075374160905 (Text)

Childline

0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

Papyrus Hotline

(Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)

0800 068 4141

07786209697 (text)

The Mix

(Support & Advice for under 25s)

0808 068 4994

85258 (Text THEMIX)

Young Minds

0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)

85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

Young Stonewall

Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ

0800 050 2020

Samaritans

Support for anyone who needs to talk

116 123 (Call)

Bullybusters

0800 169 6928

Please refer to the school website for further contact details/ websites

If you feel a child is at risk

(suffering harm, neglect or abuse)

Any member of the public can contact

Careline on 0151 233 3700 or

Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

CAMHS Crisis Care Team

Supporting children and young people in crisis regarding self-harm, suicidal ideation and acute mental health difficulties. Speak to a mental health practitioner 24hrs/day

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

• Childline is available to you if you have any concerns about:

- Bullying
- Abuse (physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, neglect)
- Your body and self esteem
- Your feelings
- Friendships
- Sexual advice
- Home life and families
- School

• You can ring them on 0800 1111 or message them online here <https://www.childline.org.uk/registration/>

• There are loads of resources available for you to download and read as well <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/>



Domestic Abuse/Violence

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance.

You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone.

This will enable police to respond

Women's Aid

0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline)

Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

0800 028 3398



CONTACT US

Email: sg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Emails are answered within 24 hrs Mon—Fri 9-3

Phone: 0151 330 5122

PC P Wood Schools Safer Police Officer



The Safeguarding Team



Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher - Mrs AM Costello

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs E Brennan – Senior Assistant Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year
Mr D McKeon – Leadership - Director of Behaviour
Mr A McVerry – Leadership - SENCO

PC P Wood – school's safer police officer
Mrs Shrimpton (Attendance Officer)
Special Educational Needs – Mrs K Sweeney
Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year – Ms R Glorman , Mrs E Garvey , Miss C Lee & Mrs S Doran

General Covid-19 advice

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a PCR test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you can't smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

People who are sick with coronavirus may have other flu like symptoms such as:

body aches

persistent headaches

sore throat

tiredness

shortness of breath

nausea or

diarrhoea

If you don't have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, you don't need to isolate until you get your result, however you do need to continue to take the usual measures to protect yourself and others from illness.

General Testing (not part of returning to England)

People with symptoms can get a test here:

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/how-to-get-tested/tests-for-people-with-symptoms/>

People without symptoms can access our community testing sites here: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/smarttesting>

Testing after travel from overseas: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-people-travelling-to-england?step-by-step-nav=8c0c7b83-5e0b-4bed-9121-1c394e2f96f3

Mental wellbeing

Don't forget about your own self-care. Discover our supportive online mental wellbeing space for adults: **qwell.io**

"THE PANTRY" @ NOTRE DAME



Notre Dame
Catholic College

Established 1869

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www.notredameliverpool.com

Headteacher: Mr Peter Duffy BA(Hons) NPQH

Our Ref: RW/Admin/4

20th October 2020

Dear Parent or Carer,

The Pantry at Notre Dame

We realise in these difficulty and very different times that there may be some families who need that little extra support. As a community, Notre Dame would like to offer the service of "The Pantry" to all of our families as we support each other.

The Pantry is a confidential service (foodbank) run by Notre Dame, whereby you can contact Rebecca Wall, our Chaplain, and ask for help with items of shopping, food and toiletries, that you are unable to afford at the moment during these unprecedented times. It may be that you are unable to access benefits, have been made redundant, are working less hours – all making it difficult to feed/support your family as you would normally do.

You may only need to use The Pantry once, or you may need to use it on a more regular basis. Please feel free to call Rebecca and speak to her directly in confidence. You don't even need to share information with your child.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either by telephone or email (rwall18.341@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk).

Remember you are not on your own in this – we are all in it together !

Kind regards

Miss R Wall
School Chaplain