

Newsletter

Friday 30th April 2021

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Home COVID tests

As parents may be aware, all schools across the country have received a new delivery of home COVID-19 test kits similar to those distributed last month. This new batch will be distributed to all participating students next week. Results of home test results can be shared with school by completing the online survey via ParentApp. If you still require support in accessing ParentApp, please contact the college via

ao@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evenings

As mentioned in our newsletter on 16th April and in the letter sent earlier this week, we will be holding our virtual Year 7 Parents' Evening via the SchoolCloud online platform from **3.30pm on Thursday 6th May**. All Year 7 parents have been provided with information and guidance on how to register your account and how to schedule your 5-minute meetings with each of your child's subject teachers. We hope you find the evening accessible and informative and we will be seeking parent feedback on the virtual approach shortly after the event. Again, if you need any further guidance on this, please contact the college via

ao@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Returning Loaned Laptops

As mentioned in last previous newsletters, college laptops will prove to be an invaluable tool in our efforts to minimise the impact of the disruption on students' learning caused by the pandemic, lockdowns and self-isolations. We therefore continue to ask that **all loaned laptops be returned to the College IT Help desk as a matter of urgency**. This will enable us to sanitise them, check over them and prepare them for re-issue in the event of a positive case and self-isolation. Thank you again to those families who returned laptops so far.



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Lines of Communication During the School Day

As we now begin to enjoy a prolonged period of stability and normality in terms of COVID-related disruption to education, we would like to remind parents and students on our long-established methods of communication during the college day.

In the event that your child needs to be collected from college for any reason, **all parents must inform the college directly via telephone call before coming to the school to collect your child**. This enables college staff to perform statutory safeguarding checks and to ensure that your child is ready and waiting for collection from the main reception. Please refrain from contacting your child directly via their mobile phone as this can unnecessarily distract them from their learning and increase the likelihood of your child breaching the college's policy on mobile phone use during the college day and being issued with a resulting sanction.

In the event that your child has a scheduled medical appointment during the college day, **all parents must inform the college directly** via telephone, email, letter or note in your child's planner at your earliest possible opportunity. Then **on the day of the appointment**, your son or daughter must inform their Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year and collect a pink Appointment Slip from the Student Services desk before they report to main reception for collection.

ParentPay

Finally, in an increasingly 'cashless' society, we appreciate the growing inconvenience and challenges presented by our current cash-based catering system. We are therefore in the process of introducing a completely cashless experience for our students. The system is called ParentPay and enables parents to electronically upload money onto your child's account removing the need for students to bring cash into college with them. Please look out for further information on this in the coming days and weeks.

Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy



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 con-

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

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

CONTACT US

Email: sg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

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

Phone: 0151 330 5122

Safeguarding Team:

Mrs Brennan - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Littleboy—Deputy DSL / Year 8

Mr McVerry—Deputy DSL

Mr D McKeon - Deputy DSL

Mrs Costello - Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Sweeney , Mrs Kildare, Mrs Doran, Miss Lee,
Mrs Garvey & Ms Glorman

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

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/>



Parent Newsletter

Safeguarding Update 15/04/21

Recent media coverage has raised the awareness of peer-on-peer abuse within educational settings linked to the social media campaign '#everyonesinvited'. This has included incidents of sexual violence and/or harassment between young people in schools.

There is a new helpline available to young people and their parents/carers

Any child, young person or adult victim of abuse can reach the 'Report Abuse in Education Helpline' by telephoning 0800 136 663, on Monday to Friday 8am - 10pm, or 9am - 6pm at weekends. It can also be contacted by email at help@nspcc.org.uk



At Notre Dame Catholic College we have a comprehensive Child Protection policy which can be found [here](#). If any students or staff are concerned about sexual violence or harassment in school they should follow the school's child protection policy and speak to a member of the school's safeguarding team without delay. Our school's safeguarding padlet provides signposting of external agencies to support students and their parents/carers. In particular there are links to the NSPCC guidance for adults in relation to non-recent abuse. The padlet can be found [here](#).

We would like to reassure parents/carers that all students will be reminded about inappropriate behaviours in relation to sexual violence and harassment during PSHCE this week. Students will also be signposted to the school padlet and reminded about the school's safeguarding procedures and who to talk to if they have any concerns.

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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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