



## DE LA SALLE SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr. A. Rannard BA (Hons) NPQH

12<sup>th</sup> September, '17

Dear Parent/Carer,

At the start of a new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back after, what I hope, was a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. Since my arrival as Headteacher, I have been overwhelmed by the positive attitude and commitment of staff, students and parents to the school. I am particularly pleased to welcome a number of new staff who will help to strengthen the quality of teaching and support we can offer at De La Salle.

I have been very clear to staff and students that to become a good or outstanding school we must have the highest standards and expectations of ourselves and each other across all areas of school life. I assure that, as Headteacher, this pursuit of excellence will be at the forefront of all our plans.

### GCSE Results

There were some very pleasing results in the summer for our Year 11 students, including our first ever Grade 9s. We wish all of our students well in the next stage of their education and look forward to hearing of their future successes. At the same time, I am also aware that, in some areas, our students should be making better progress than they do and work is well underway to improve these outcomes for all of our current students.

### Ofsted

As you will be aware, the school has not been fully inspected since December 2014 when it was placed into Special Measures. Since then, the school has been on a long and difficult journey but we expect Ofsted to return to inspect the school in the near future. I am very aware that the school is still a way off where we would all like it to be but I am hopeful that the inspectors will recognise the hard work, improvements and changes that have been put in place and are now starting to bear fruit.

### Ofsted – How You Can Help

Your support for the school is invaluable and you can continue to support us, not only in preparation for Ofsted but, more importantly, for our continued improvement in the following ways:

- **Uniform:** ensure your child complies fully with the school uniform rules, especially with regard to make up and footwear.
- **Attendance:** make sure your child attends school every day, avoid taking holidays in term time and ensure your child attends school before and after medical or dental appointments.
- **Parentview:** this is Ofsted's website that allows parents to register and have their say about their child's school. For many schools, it is only those parents who are disgruntled or unhappy with a school that record their views. This of course is their right but, all too

often, this does not give a fair or accurate picture of parental views, especially those of the silent majority. If you would like to register your views and help give a more accurate and balanced view of the school, then please go to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

### **Parental Meetings**

I will write to you again in the very near future with some dates when I will be able to speak to you in person and, along with colleagues from the Local Authority, Governors and the Archdiocese we can update you on the school's journey of improvement.

### **Important Dates**

27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 11 Photograph Year 7 Welcome Mass, 6.00pm
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Opening Evening (tours between 5.00pm and 8.00pm)
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 7 Form Tutor Parents' Evening, from 2.00pm
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 10 & Year 11 Careers Fair, 5.30pm – 8.00pm
20 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for half term (returns Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October)

Though it is still early days, I am very excited by the potential this school has, once again, to provide an excellent education to the local community. Driven by the ambition, dedication and hard work of the staff, students, governors and parents, I am confident that we are making progress towards the excellent school that you and your child deserves.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. A. Rannard  
**Headteacher**