



De La Salle  
School

Mill Brow, Eccleston, St. Helens,  
Merseyside WA10 4QH

Telephone: 01744 20511

Email: [delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk)

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

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

### Pre-Return to School Letter

As we begin to pack away the speedos and Soltan, I hope you and your family have been able to enjoy the summer break so far. I thought it would be timely to provide a few 'back to school' updates and messages as you start to prepare for returning to school.

#### GCSE Results

Congratulations to all of our students collecting their GCSE results today. Despite a second year of falling pass rates nationally, we continue to buck the trend and have seen yet another increase in our GCSE results this year. I am particularly pleased to see that we achieved our highest ever number of Grade 9s.

#### Water Bottles

As I mentioned at the end of term, the canteen will no longer be selling bottled drinks to students. Instead, we are encouraging students to bring in refillable water bottles in to school. Over summer we have had our water fountains refreshed and new fountains added. Not only will this be cheaper for students but also will see a massive reduction in our plastic waste.

#### Uniform – Shoes

That regular reminder that branded shoes and training shoes are not permitted. Details of what are and are not allowed can be found on our school website [Uniform \(delasalle.st-helens.sch.uk\)](http://delasalle.st-helens.sch.uk). As with last year, students wearing incorrect footwear will be offered temporary replacement pumps until acceptable footwear is worn. Students who refuse this, will be removed from lessons.

#### Uniform – Other Issues

- **Piercings:** As you know, piercings are not permitted in school.
- **Jewellery:** Likewise, students are not allowed to wear any jewellery, chains, earrings etc. Any such items being worn will be confiscated.
- **Hair:** should also be of a natural colour
- **Make up:** Make up should not be worn
- **Mobile phones:** these should be turned off and out of sight between 8.30am and 3.00pm. If a phone is seen, used or heard between these hours, it will be confiscated.
- **Equipment:** all students are expected to attend school with a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator every day along with subject specific equipment on appropriate days i.e. PE kit, Art books etc

#### Summer Building Work

On a more positive note, there has been much activity over the summer term, with many building improvements taking place. Most noticeable, the upgrading of our main toilet blocks, installation of additional water fountains and additional display screens in the dining room.

## **Academisation**

The process continues and we edge ever nearer to our academisation. Prior to summer the staff and union consultation began as one of the final stages of our conversion to becoming an academy. We currently expect the conversion to take place in the upcoming autumn term.

## **Start of School Year**

Looking ahead to September, the key dates and times for returning are below:

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September: INSET Day (students do not attend)

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September: all students return for an 8.30am start

- Year 7 to go to the dining room
- Year 8 to go to the performing arts quad
- Years 9, 10 and 11 to line up on tennis courts

I think that is enough to be getting on with for now. I hope you enjoy what remains of the summer and I look forward to working with you and your family for the upcoming school year.

Yours sincerely,

**Andrew Rannard**  
Headteacher