

# THE DE LA SALLE ACADEMY

Ref: SP/AF/End of Term Letter  
11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing support over what has been a very difficult and turbulent year. We are now at the end and this will be the final letter you receive with the De La Salle letter head. It comes with great sadness, but also with renewed hope for the future.

Over the past term, we have been frantically working in the background to have everything ready for September - even as you read this, work goes on. But firstly let's look back over the year: even with Covid we have managed to run a number of trips out, PE visited the football museum at the start of the year – which seems a lifetime ago. Geography have run a number of days out undertaking fieldwork, we have had a team in our first ever chess tournament, the rowing team has run all year, the football teams have taken part in competitions and we have had a number of visitors and performances in school. Small things that have helped us slowly return to normal!

Despite a closure notice, we changed many aspects of school life, from how we assess progress to the behaviour policy to the reward policy and much more. These changes along with hard work from staff on their curriculums resulted in a positive Ofsted, ultimately it was this that began the process of stopping the closure notice. Many of you played your part in this, and as a team we thank you for that.

Moving forward, changes will continue at a pace, I am certain that some you will agree with and some you won't – but rest assured that everything we do is about making this school the best in the city and making sure that your son can be the best that he can be.

So, on the changes... over the summer, many classrooms will be refurbished with new furniture, ICT equipment, carpets, desks and chairs. Unfortunately, due to the tight timescale we have had to move into Dixons trust, not every room will be done this summer. Those that don't get done will be in the next phase of work. The toilets are having a full revamp with new cubicles, wash basins and flooring. And finally, the changing rooms are also having a full revamp. There is much more planned which will be put into action throughout the next academic year.

For yourselves, your son will require a new uniform and PE Kit. Included with this letter is a £65 voucher for you to purchase your son's uniform. The voucher should be taken to either West Derby Schoolwear or Brienda Ltd, where they will be expecting you. Hand over your voucher and they will cross you off the list. The new uniform will be different for Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

### For years 7, 8 and 9, the uniform is:

- Black formal school pants
- White shirt
- School Tie – blue with double stripes
- Grey blazer with school logo
- Black formal shoes – please see our website for shoes that are not allowed
- Black socks

In addition, a jumper is optional. Students may choose to wear either a grey, black or blue jumper with the school blue stripe around the collar line.

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The PE Kit consists of:

- T-shirt with the school logo on
- Blue shorts
- Blue socks
- Trainers

Any other item for PE is optional.

The voucher will cover the cost of the PE Kit, the blazer and tie.

**For students in year 10 and 11, the uniform is:**

- A formal suit. They can choose to wear either a plain grey, blue or black suit.
- Black socks
- Black formal shoes – please see our website for shoes that are not allowed
- School tie with logo

The PE Kit consists of:

- T-shirt with the school logo on
- Blue shorts
- Blue socks
- Trainers

Students can buy their suit from the uniform shop or elsewhere. All students are expected to have a school PE Kit, irrespective if they chose it as a GCSE option or not.

Further to the uniform all students must have a bag with the following equipment:

- 2 black pens
- 2 green pens
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Highlighter
- See through pencil case

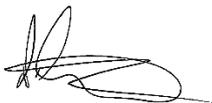
Equipment will be checked by tutors each morning.

The timings of the day are also changing. Earlier this term I asked for feedback on new timings, which was overwhelmingly positive for the change. Please see the website for full timings, but please note that all students must be in line-up at 8.30am. After this time, they will be deemed as late.

In order to ensure that we, as a staff body, are ready to welcome students back in September, students will return to school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Year 7 should arrive at 8.30am and all other year groups should arrive at 9.00am. It is vital that September marks a new era and a new mindset, 100% attendance is expected from all students. The first three days are vital to introduce you son to a new way of working and new expectations, failure to attend during this week will put your son in a difficult position moving forward as he will not know any of the changes that have taken place.

I look forward to continuing to work with you on our next phase of our improvement journey.

Yours sincerely



Miss A Freeman  
Principal