



Greetings,

The Minister of Education Chris Hipkins has announced the move to Orange at 11:59pm Wednesday night.

The decision to move to Orange has been made on public health advice and reflects that we are moving past the peak of cases and our health system is able to cope. We are seeing that cases are declining due to high levels of vaccination and natural immunity after infection.

I wanted to give you an update on what the move to **Orange means for De La Salle College.**

At Orange, **face masks are still required** at De La Salle College while indoors in class and in College Assemblies and Masses and all large gatherings indoors. Every student is expected to have a mask or two with him while at school.

Wearing a mask is a key health measure that slows the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings and we still have positive cases in our community. For that reason, we expect that visitors to the school, including parents or family wear a mask whenever they are on our school grounds.

At Orange, students aged 12 and above are still required to wear a face mask on school or public transport.

We will continue to keep all the other health measures in place at school that we know slow the spread of COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette, appropriate physical distancing whenever we can and, most importantly, staying home if we are sick and being tested.

I would encourage students who are over 16 to have the Booster to further safeguard themselves and their families from the effects of Covid.

We are looking forward to a few less restrictions and returning to school life that is a bit closer to normal.

Stay safe and well.

God bless

M. Hogarty
Principal