



Corona Virus Update

Dear Members of the De La Salle College community,

This is the latest update for you in regards to the effects of the Corona Virus on our College.

- As of today there are **NO** confirmed cases of the virus in the De La Salle College community. With so much information and misinformation swirling around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what will happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.
- As soon as a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (eg. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Education will inform me about this, and we will work together to get quick and clear messaging out to you
- If there was a case confirmed of someone in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course we are all concerned for the wellbeing of our young men. Please be assured that with no case confirmed in our school, your children are safe at De La Salle.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness. Please remind your son that the sharing of drink bottles and food must not happen.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

1. The College is operating as usual, following all the guidelines put in place by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health.
Normal daily school routines as usual.
2. Gatherings of 100 people or more are banned, however schools are exempt from this. We will be keeping all of our College gatherings below the recommended numbers out of concern for the health of our community.
3. Winter Sports are **on hold** at the moment, but our young men can still attend fitness trainings, contact training is not allowed. We will have Staff and Coaches running Fitness and Skills practices and expect our young men to keep up their fitness levels and attend these Winter Sports trainings.
4. Whole College Assemblies will not take place until the guidelines on mass gatherings are lifted. We will be able to have our planned individual Year Level Assemblies.
5. College Property staff will wash and disinfect all student toilets after every Interval and Lunch break. Hand soap and hot water are in all College toilets.

During these unknown and uncertain times it is very important that we remain well informed and calm, particularly with regard to the messages that we give our young men. We need to use positive, reassuring language in our messages to them.

I will continue to keep the De La Salle College community updated with any new developments.

Have a blessed and hope filled weekend.

God bless

M.Hogarty
Principal