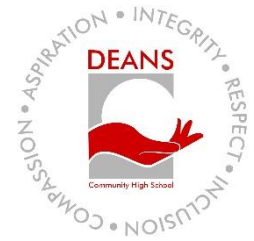


# Parent Update

23 October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your children were able to find some time to recharge during last week's October break. For once we seem to have picked the right week for weather and actually saw a bit of sunshine, always a good thing.

This week senior phase students have been working on their October assessments and this will continue into next week also. The word 'assessment' tends to give most of us some anxiety, even decades after we were last asked to sit one, however we do want our students to focus on the positive outcomes from these and the importance of having a growth mindset. We assess our progress regularly to give us the opportunity to make improvements and at this stage of the academic year, that is an incredibly valuable process to go through. Students are at a point in their courses where they have by no means completed their learning and therefore have a lot of time to make any necessary changes.

Two aspects that they are encouraged to focus on are;

- What has gone well that I can now do more of? This could be the way they structured an essay, how they split their time working on each subject, the materials they used to revise or how they broke down a problem into smaller chunks.
- What has the assessment highlighted that I need to work on? This is always the harder one to swallow but having the courage to really focus on this and take steps to improve can have an enormous impact on their understanding of the subject and their confidence.

Both of these will enable students to identify what they can do next to make further progress.

Very few people get things right the first time and some of us take several attempts to achieve success, but this makes us more resilient and better equipped to face problems in the future. There would be a lot less drivers out there if we all gave up after failing our driving tests on the first attempt!

As always, please take of yourselves during these uncertain times and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns over your child's wellbeing and progress.

Pauline Allison  
Head Teacher

## Reminder of Covid 19 Protocols

As you are aware, with the return of our pupils and staff to school, we have put procedures in to place that support all members of the school community if anyone displays symptoms of Covid 19.

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If a pupil displays symptoms, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). **Pupils over the age of 16 may return home themselves.** The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport.

You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected.

Information on the groups of children within the school, **and on school transport**, and the adults that each group of children come in to contact with will be collected. This is to fulfil legal responsibilities for public health and will allow Test and Protect to contact appropriate people in the event of a positive test result.

***If anyone within your household tests positive for Covid 19, please do not send your child to school. Report their absence and the reason for this by calling PSA in the morning.***