



9 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you and your family are well. It is important as we near the end of the half term to take a moment to look forward to welcoming back the students to the school at some point, from 8 March.

When the students return, we are determined to raise the expectations we have for them at The De Montfort School, creating a learning environment that enables all our students to learn. I am sure you will agree we all want a school where staff members can spend their time planning and delivering excellent lessons which help students to make real progress. I want our students to show good manners to staff members and each other, and come to school looking like they are ready to learn and well prepared for the lessons during the day.

Students' good behaviour is the foundation for forming a culture of achievement and opportunity within a school. Their conduct around the school should be impeccable; every lesson should be characterised by a relentless focus on learning, free from distractions.

To support this focus on improving student behaviour across the school, we will be making some changes to our 'Behaviour for Learning' system. We will be paying particular attention to behaviour that disrupts lessons as this has the most significant impact on students' progress.

We all want the students at The De Montfort School to take pride in themselves and have high standards in their appearance. Therefore, uniform standards are essential. On their return we will expect students to wear their uniform in accordance with the school standards, shirts tucked in, ties done up. We have jumpers for all the students if they need them as we will not be allowing students to return to school with hooded tops. We know that this is a particularly challenging time for lots of our families, this change is not about adding an extra financial burden on families, but about raising standards. If you have any concerns about meeting the uniform standards, please contact us as we will be able to help.

Finally, we will not be allowing students to use a mobile phone during the school day, as they are a major cause of low-level disruption. I understand that some students will need to have a mobile phone with them for their safety, of course, we support this, but these phones should not be visible during the school day.

Over the next few weeks, in preparation for the students return, I will provide more information regarding our uniform standards, behaviour standards and mobile phone policy. I know that the students at The De Montfort School will respond to the changes positively; in doing so, we will create a school of which we can be proud, where all students can succeed.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Weston
Associate Headteacher