



Dear 5th year student/parent/guardian,

I hope that you are all keeping well and again I would like to commend the fifth year students for their dedication to their online learning over the past weeks. As you are aware it has been announced that 5th year students will be returning to school on Monday 15th March.

Return to face-to-face tuition

The contingency timetable and online live classes have been working really well, and feedback from teachers, parents and students has been mostly very positive. In recent days we have been planning for how we can continue to offer the best possible education for all of our students. An updated version of the contingency timetable for 5th years (LC and LCA) is attached. This timetable will allow teachers to continue to effectively deliver online classes to the other year groups while also teaching the 5th and 6th years in person. The provision of online classes for 5th year (LC and LCA) will cease from March 15th, as 5th years return to face-to-face classes on that date. We have decided to continue to exclude most of the non-exam subjects from the 5th year timetable during the initial return to school (this accounts for the shorter day on Friday below).

The 5th year students will follow the updated contingency timetable (see attached), but it will in effect run as follows;

Monday	09.00-14.45
Tuesday	09.00-15.45
Wednesday	09.00- 13.15
Thursday	09.00- 15.45
Friday	09.00- 13.15

The LCA1 class will also follow an updated contingency timetable (see attached).

We would ask students not to congregate in groups on the way into school or at the school gates. School will be open from 08.45 and students should make their way straight to their first class (classes will be held in the classrooms as per your original timetable). The lunch break has been shortened to 30 mins, we ask that students do not leave the school to go to the shop during the break. The school cafeteria will offer a limited service to assist students to remain in the building during the shorter lunch break. At break times, if the weather is poor and students cannot go outside, students will have the use of the various social areas in the building. We ask that the space in the building be used and students spread themselves out in the social areas. We must remind students about the importance of following the Public Health advice around social distancing. Please be aware that windows will be open in all classrooms to ensure adequate

ventilation. Whilst the heating will be on, it is reasonable to expect that the school will be cold, so please wear layers of clothing.

Regular school rules in relation to wearing of school uniform and face coverings will apply. It is our expressed preference, in line with HSE and Department of Education guidelines, that everyone attending school should wear a face mask. Masks must be worn properly so that the nose and mouth are covered at all times.

Important:

It is imperative to remember the following at all times:

- A Health Declaration Form will be forwarded to you from the school. This must be completed before any return to school.
- Students should self-isolate or restrict their movements at home if they display any signs or symptoms of Covid-19 and contact their family doctor to arrange a test
- Students should NOT return to school in event of the following:
 - If they are identified by the HSE as a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19
 - If they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus
 - If they have travelled outside of Ireland
- Students will be asked to co-operate with any public health officials and the school for contact tracing purposes and follow any public health advice in the event of a case or outbreak in the school
- Students along with staff need to remain vigilant - please remember to wash / sanitise your hands on entry and exit to the school and as necessary throughout the school day. This advice would also include if you exit / enter a vehicle before / after the school day.

We look forward to a safe return of our 5th year students on March 15th.

Kind regards,

Paul Burke
Principal