



18<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## FAO: All Parents / Guardians at Coláiste Abbáin

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I hope this correspondence finds you and all at home well.

We are continuing our works and planning for the full re-opening of Coláiste Abbáin for the 2020/21 School Year for all year groups.

We can now confirm the following as **Phase One Information** in the preparation for return to school. Please ensure you check “Letters to Families” section on our school website on a regular basis as this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> letter of communication on the website.

**(1) Return to School Dates: There will be a staged return to school from 25<sup>th</sup> August to 28<sup>th</sup> August.**

<b>First Year Induction</b>	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	9 am – 3.00 pm
	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	9 am – 3.30 pm
<b>1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Years only</b>	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	9 am – 3.30 pm
<b>TY, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Years <u>ONLY</u></b>	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	9am – 3.30 pm
<b>All Students Return</b>	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2020	9 am – 4.00 pm

In planning for and commencing the reopening of our school collectively we need to do all that is possible to meet the objective that **“If Covid-19 is not present, it cannot spread”**.

The following are of importance from today onwards:

- If your child (ren) has/ have travelled outside Ireland within a 14 day period prior to return to school then they must restrict their movement and not return to Coláiste Abbáin for 14 days after their return.
- If your child is displaying any symptoms of possible Covid-19, as made generally aware to all by the HSE, then they may not come to school until they have been tested and a negative result re Covid-19 obtained.
- No staff member may return to Coláiste Abbáin without having completed a Return to Work form which has been issued to staff.

## **(2) Induction re Covid-19:**

Each Year Group will recommence with **Induction re Covid-19** and managing the safe and sustainable return to school, designated areas for year groups, safe movement around the campus and wellbeing for all.

This staged re-opening means that all students will be back to full time education by the 31<sup>st</sup> August.

**Students and staff must wear masks** and may also wear visors while inside all school buildings with the exception of when eating or with prior permission from a member of staff.

Maximum ventilation will be maintained at all times.

All 1<sup>st</sup> years will remain in base classes for core subjects and all class groups will have designated areas and seats before school, break time and lunch time.

## **(3) New arrangements** for break and lunch to ensure social distancing.

### **Morning Break (11.00 - 11.15am)**

- **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years are expected to bring in a snack for break time** to be eaten in their designated area.
- TY break pre-ordered and delivered to their classroom beside the canteen

Canteen access (senior cycle privilege)

- 6<sup>th</sup> years 11:00 - 11.08
- 5<sup>th</sup> years 11.08 – 11.15

### **Lunch Break**

- **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year** Groups **pre-order lunch** delivered to Sports Hall and Rm103.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Year** Group access canteen: First 15 minutes of lunch break:
  - Monday /Tuesday 1.15-1.30pm
  - Wednesday – Friday 12.35 – 12.50pm
- **TY Students** access canteen 10 minutes earlier (1.05pm Monday and Tuesday, 12.25pm Wednesday – Friday)
- **5<sup>th</sup> years** access canteen: 1.30 Monday /Tuesday and 12.50 Wednesday – Friday to end of lunch can access the canteen
- **6<sup>th</sup> years** are allowed to go to Cullens for lunch. (6<sup>th</sup> year privilege)

#### (4) School Uniform

Full uniform is expected to be worn at all times unless permission has been granted by a teacher for extra-curricular activities.

#### (5) Limited access to school grounds

We will continue to need and look for parental/guardian support in ensuring we are best placed to work through the coming weeks. **Parents/ guardians and visitors are not allowed on school grounds in line with current regulations.** Drop off and collection arrangements remain the same as last year. There are no parking facilities on school grounds for parents / guardians and students. Parents/ guardians are expected to arrange appointments for students outside of school hours to minimise risk and disruption to our teaching and learning school day.

The DES through Bus Eireann and local contractors has confirmed the provision of the full School Bus Service to and from school each day as was the case pre 12<sup>th</sup> March last.

This means that all students who have a confirmed place on a School Bus each day will have this service provided for them with effect from the 26<sup>th</sup> August. Parents of 1<sup>st</sup> year students will have to bring and collect their child(ren) to and from school on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August. The DES are requiring that all school buses are being fitted with hand sanitisation equipment and will be subject to enhanced daily cleaning by operators. Students travelling on buses will be pre-assigned seats and will be required to wear a mask while travelling unless a specific exemption has been granted.

Further correspondence will be issued to parents/guardians in due course. Please ensure you follow the 'Letters to Parents' section on our school website.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

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John Nolan

Principal