Coláiste Abbáin Students

Let's Keep Our Community Safe
Covid-19 Protocols at Coláiste Abbáin

1. If your child (or anyone in your household) is or becomes unwell - keep them at home and notify the school.
2. Any student/family that has been overseas during August must have completed two weeks of quarantine before returning to the school community. Please email or phone the school and notify us if this applies to you and/or your child.
3. If a student/family member or close contact is suspected to have Covid-19, it is vital that the student does not attend school before consulting with your family GP and that you notify the school reception by telephone without delay.

Each Morning at Home:

Take your temperature. If it's above 37.6°C stay at home, notify the school of your absence and call your GP for further advice.

If you've developed a cough or chest infection in recent days, stay at home, notify the school and speak with your GP before returning to school.

If anyone at home has a temperature or has developed a cough, stay at home, notify the school and consult your GP before returning to school

Make sure to have your own clean face mask and storage bag/box and some fresh tissues in your bag before you leave home.

Make sure to use your own face mask if you are travelling to school or public transport.

Covid Hygiene:

- Always cough and sneeze into your elbow
- Tissues and hand sanitisers are provided in all classrooms
- Wash your hands and sanitise them after using the toilet or touching shared items.
- Sanitise your hands at regular intervals.
- No handshakes or physical contact with others in the school community where possible as this increases the risk of transmission.
- Every time you leave a desk or sit down at a new one (for optional subjects and levels) clean your desk with the antibacterial wipes provided.

Morning Break/Lunchtime.

- Students using the canteen must follow the queueing system and all other measures.
- All food must be eaten from it's container provided and not placed on the table. Students should maintain physical distancing during breaktimes and limit interactions with students.

If a student or staff member becomes unwell in school:

- Anyone who becomes unwell with COVID-19 related symptoms in school will be accompanied to one of our isolation areas.
- Parents/guardians will be notified that they need to collect their child. They are not permitted to travel on public transport nor can they be brought home in staff cars.
- It's important that isolation procedures are then adhered to by the entire family until your family doctor has been consulted.
- If an individual has been isolated then sent home, the school must receive notification from the staff member/student's GP before he/she can return to the school

Remember- Students and staff with any sort of acute illness should not attend school

Changes to School Life:

There are a number of changes to school life and they will be explained in detail on the induction day for each year group.

Our focus is on getting back to teaching and learning while keeping ourselves and our families safe. To do that requires everyone's cooperation and we expect students to follow all of the measures that are required.

Facemasks have been purchased and must be worn by all students. While students may wear their own washable face masks they must be appropriate and can not include any political or offensive language or images. When given permission to enter the school, wearing your face mask you must go straight to your classroom. Each morning before the first class of the day – you must clean your desk, chair and sanitise your hands. Face masks must be worn when leaving your classroom to exit the school for break, lunch and home time.

When you change classrooms, **you must clean the desk and chair in your next classroom before settling in.**

Classroom chairs and desks have been socially distanced for everyone's safety. Please ensure your desk stays in the position it has been assigned to.

There are changes to how breaktimes are organised.

At the end of the school day, leave the school when instructed to do so, limiting your interaction with other students. . Sanitise your hands before you leave the school.

What happens if there's a Covid case in or associated with, our school community?

In the event that a student or staff member tests positive for the virus, the HSE will notify the school. Then in turn, all students, staff and parents/guardians will be notified without delay by the school.

Take care of your emotional and mental well-being

This is a challenging time for everyone; be patient, have respect for those around you and speak with your family, friends and teachers if you feel overwhelmed. All these measures are aimed at protecting both you, school staff and your loved ones.