



RE: Re-opening of Coláiste Abbáin

Wednesday August 5th, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope you and your families are keeping well.

As you are aware, our school has now been closed since 12th March due to the COVID-19 situation. We are now hoping to re-open our school safely, in line with current guidance and recommendations.

Re-opening the school safely will require the co-operation of all members of our school community – WWETB, Board of Management, school leadership, staff, parents and students. We will all be called on to play our part in ensuring that re-opening of the school is done in a safe manner which prevents the spread of the virus and allows the vital work of teaching and learning to proceed with as little disruption as possible.

We are working on our plan for the safe reopening of the school for some weeks now and will publish our *COVID-19 Response Plan* to our school website when it is finalised.

The Response Plan will give details of

- Physical preparation, signage, hand sanitiser stations;
- Advice, procedures and training for the safe return to working in the school for all school staff and students;
- General and specific advice on how all pupils, staff, parents and visitors will prevent the spread of the virus.

We will also provide our COVID-19 Policy Statement to the school website when finalised. In the meantime, families should prepare for the return to school in the usual way in terms of uniform, stationery supplies, etc. The documentation regarding reopening contains no guidance on uniforms. As such, the policy on the school uniform remains the same. As always, parents will use their own judgement regarding the frequency of laundering the uniform.

It is likely that the first school week will be a phased return giving staff members and each year group adequate time for training in the new systems that will be in place.

We are really looking forward to welcoming our students back to school and will be doing all that we can to ensure that the return to school is a safe and enjoyable experience for the everyone. We will be in touch with you again before school re-opens.

Yours sincerely,

John Nolan.
Principal