

COLÁISTE ABBÁIN

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Friday, 26th February 2021

Re: Return to school and LC Update

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and students,

As we prepare to resume school from next Monday, I wish to provide you with a number of updates as set out below.

Re-opening of School

The school will re-open to 6th year students on Monday, 1 March. Students will follow their **Normal Class Timetable**. Remote teaching and learning will finish for 6th year students after today's classes.

School Transport will operate as it did before Christmas. Our school Canteen will operate a free Breakfast Club, subsidised 11am Break and will take pre-orders for Lunch time.

The school will comply fully with all health and safety measures that are required. There is an Updated School Response Plan in place. Guidelines for re-opening will be issued to staff, students and parents as in the past with students having an Induction Programme on Monday morning at 9am. It is imperative to stress the importance of recommencing the Induction Programme that entails hand washing, sanitising, physical distancing, safe movement around the campus and wellbeing for all. **Students and staff must wear masks** as before. Maximum ventilation will be maintained at all times.

In this regard, students must fill out a **Student Declaration Form** that will be made available today via SMS and your child's TEAMS account. The link is here also:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=uPBfzG7WkEWKN3ewOGREFrXBj-7Rq1BNsIKsAKCZwLfUQ1dIQlg0Q05DSzUwVki3Uk1ZRIYOMVRMVS4u>

Leaving Certificate 2021

The government has announced that, subject to public health advice, written Leaving Certificate examinations will begin on Wednesday, 9 June in accordance with a timetable published on the State Examinations Commission (SEC) website. Students will also have the option of availing of a SEC Accredited Grades process, the details of which are still being worked out. The final grades provided to students by this method will be known as “accredited grades”. Students will have the option of availing of written examinations or accredited grades **or both**. When results are issued by the SEC in August, students will be awarded the higher of the grades from the written examinations or accredited process. As a result, I strongly encourage as many students as possible to follow **both assessment paths**. However, I must emphasise that **NO discussion** is permitted between teachers and students or parents about their grades or possible grades. Orals and practicals will proceed in a format that is still under discussion. These examinations are provisionally scheduled for the Easter holiday period.

Further communication will be made when there is more information available to schools about the SEC Accredited Grades. Please feel free to email me with any query/comment on any of the above points at johnnolan@wwetb.ie

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Nolan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

John Nolan

Principal.