

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This information bulletin follows on from that on August 18th

In Midleton CBS we are working very hard to ensure that our school is as safe as it can be. This again will be impossible without your support and full compliance from students. This must be done together. We would like to update you on our plans for returning safely to school this year.

The school officially re-opens for students on Tuesday 1st September for 1st year students. All students will have an induction session to help them get to know their school again, get to know their tutors, teachers and other key staff who will work closely with them over these days.

For induction, students will only need to bring:

- Pencil case
- Packed snack for morning break
- lock for locker (standard lock to fit 8mm eye)
- a re-usable, cloth mask/face- covering (masks must be plain with no writing or graphics)

Please note – the water fountain will not be in use and so students must bring their own water in a labelled bottle.

The canteen will be available (pre-order only) under new guidelines which can be found on the website.

Covid-19 Safety Precautions

We are preparing the school so we can follow all of the necessary safety procedures as outlined by the Department of Education and the HSE. These include:

- All students must wear a face mask/visor in classes where social distancing of 1 metre is not possible or at the request of teachers.
- Masks/visors must be worn on the corridor, coming into the school building, while in class and transferring from class to class. A student may only take off mask/visor if outdoors and maintains a minimum 2m distance from others.
- Students must not share any items, for example: pens, rulers, calculators, books, water bottles,
- Social distancing, hand hygiene and good respiratory etiquette should be observed by all students. (Good respiratory etiquette means covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your bent elbow when you cough or sneeze. Follow the instructions on posters around the school)
- Physical distancing between the teacher and class should be observed.
- No student should attend school if unwell or any members of their household are unwell with symptoms consistent with Covid-19.

- Any student who develops symptoms of Covid-19 at school should bring this to the attention of the Principal promptly.

In school:

1. Students should NOT come to school if they feel unwell / display any of the Covid-19 symptoms (cough, temperature, loss of smell / taste, shortness of breath).
2. If you have travelled from a country not on the current Green List, your son must self-isolate for a period of 2 weeks and must not come to school.
3. We have created two Covid Isolation Rooms in case anyone displays symptoms while in school. In such cases, students will be brought to this space where they can safely isolate until they can be collected.
4. All of our rooms have been laid out to ensure social distancing of 1m at a minimum. Depending on certain subjects and the numbers of the students in the class, they may be able to sit further apart from each other.
5. All classrooms, desks and chairs will be sanitised every day. Two Electrostatic Application Systems have been acquired to for this purpose to combat Covid-19.
6. All classrooms will have hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes.
7. Hand sanitiser is positioned throughout the school at all touch-points and on walls of corridors.
8. Hand hygiene is very important, follow the instructions posted around the school.
9. Students will be only allowed into the toilets in small groups to ensure social distancing.
10. Students will be split for their morning break to reduce the numbers of students mingling with each other. Students will have their 40-minute lunch in the same area every day and will be allocated a place outside to get fresh air.
11. Parents & Guardians are no longer allowed into any part of the school building without an appointment.
12. All staff & students must adhere to the one system in operation in the school. There is ample signage around the school.
13. All staff will have completed Covid-19 safety training before returning to work.
14. Students should not leave any of their belongings in school overnight outside of their locker. Each student has the sole responsibility for their belongings. PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING.

We have displayed HSE guidelines and Covid-19 Safety Signage across the school (classrooms, toilet blocks, common areas) to educate students on how to 'Stop the Spread' of Covid-19. We have installed markings on the floor at various locations to remind everyone about keeping your distance from others;

Thank you for your continued support in what has been a challenging time for our whole school community. We look forward to welcoming your son to a safe learning environment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Allen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Principal