



11/3/2021

Dear Parents /Guardians/Students

We are delighted to be welcoming 5th year back to school this Monday the 15th of March. We are very much looking forward to seeing you all.

However, the interim period of the next two weeks is going to be a demanding and challenging time for you our students. It is critical that we all play our part in the safe return to school so as to ensure that the school can remain open.

We have had to introduce some new revised guidelines for this interim period. These are not designed to make life difficult but to ensure that the school remains a safe place for everyone coming to school and also in order to enable the rest of the student body to return on a phased basis. These measures have been working well with 6th years who are now back in school for two weeks.

These guidelines are based on HSE advice. Remember we are doing this in order to keep everyone safe, to keep the school open and to allow the rest of the students to return at a future date.

- Everyone must wear a face masks when indoors at all times.
- Due to this and to comply with Health & Safety student will be given designated areas for break time
- At break and lunch times only **four students** are allowed on **external benches** at all times, sitting at opposite ends.
- The pods have been re-arranged for the interim. Details of the pods will be explained on Monday.
- Students are not to travel in the same car at any time.
- The time-table is to be strictly followed; this is to ensure the Health & Safety for all.
- The playing of any games/sport activities is not allowed during break or lunch times.
- The one-way system is to be followed at all times.
- The canteen will not be open, please ensure that you bring what you need for break and lunch.

- Social distancing and hand hygiene guidelines must be adhered to at all times both inside and outside the building.

We expect everyone to follow these revised guidelines for everyone's safety. Any blatant disregarding of these revised guidelines cannot be tolerated.

Please note that the return to school form is available on the school APP and must be filled out and signed by a parent not more than **3 days prior to the return to school**. Link [here](#) to a printable version **if no app**.

We thank you all in advance for following these guidelines. By working together in the spirit of our school value of *Unitas*, we will get through this and by doing so will make the return to school safe for all. Below are link to all DES information on return to school.

[gov.ie - Reopening our post primary schools \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

[gov.ie - Back to school advice for parents, students and families \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday.

Kind regards

Michael O' Sullivan



