

22 May 2020

Dear Students and Parents

As per my previous update, we have been asked by the government to explore the possibility of offering 'some face-to-face contact' to supplement students' remote learning. Whilst we have been asked to be ready from early June, no actual date has been confirmed as this guidance is based on various wider conditions being met. I must therefore stress that what is outlined below may have to change; though we have designed it such that this will be kept to a minimum whatever circumstances lie ahead.

My primary concern is for the safety of students and staff and having reviewed the merits of various options, I believe that the plan I am putting in place is thoughtful, measured and realistic. The plan will be supported by a wide range of comprehensive safety measures and protocols. For example, the number of students and staff onsite at any one time will be heavily restricted – across any one day, we would expect there to be less than 100 students visiting the College campus (which has a capacity of 1500 students).

There are four phases to the proposed plan:

**PHASE 1: w/c 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – face-to-face support sessions for SELECTED students**

We will prioritise the students who need support the most and these students will be invited into College to meet with a relevant member of our support teams.

**PHASE 2: w/c 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – review sessions with teachers for ALL students**

These will be run along similar lines to our longstanding Review Days. Each student will be assigned a one hour time slot during which they will be invited to attend College to meet their teachers and tutor. This will be an opportunity to review progress, give support where needed, supply resources and bolster confidence. If a student or teacher was unable to be in College, the appointment would be done via a video call using Microsoft Teams.

Please note that while teachers are conducting these review sessions, remote learning may be reduced in some instances.

**PHASE 3: w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 for two weeks – virtual lessons for ALL students**

This will be the final two teaching weeks of the year and in addition to the current remote learning, students should expect a minimum of one 45min live lesson for each of their subjects, as well as a tutorial. These will be delivered via Microsoft Teams and full details of how to use this will be shared nearer the time. There may need to be some flexibility, but we are planning that the lesson would take place within a student's current timetable.

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**PHASE 4: 6th & 7th July 2020 – end of year assessments for ALL students**

As there will be no formal end of year exams in College, we are currently planning to have online end of year assessments for each subject. This will give students something to aim for and support their progression to Year 2.

Whilst we await confirmation from the government about reopening, I would like to reassure you that we are going to considerable lengths to reappoint the buildings on the College campus and to put in place significant alterations to maximise the safety of all who will attend College.

At the heart of all of these actions and plans is our commitment to continuing to be a community that derives its strength from helping each other. Each and every one of us has our own unique personal situation during this time of crisis, and all of our processes and expectations are thoughtful and considerate in respect of this. At such a crucial stage of students' education, the cycle of care and communication between the College, our students and our parents/carers must remain steadfast, and our resolve has never been stronger to helping every student achieve success, in spite of these extraordinary circumstances.

Take care and stay safe.



Mike Kilbride  
Principal