



Despite the overall success of the online school during the last few months we are all very much looking forward to opening the school gates again. Therefore, in line with recent government announcements, it is our intention to open the school fully for all students in September.

We appreciate that, following the challenges of recent months, adjusting to the 'new normal' and the idea of returning to school in September may cause you some concern. However, I would like to reassure you of the detailed planning and preparation we are undertaking to ensure a safe return to school for all students, parents and teachers.

I would like to share with you some of the arrangements and plans which are currently being made in order to ensure a safe school environment:

- Full cleaning and disinfection of the school premises by a specialist company.
- Reinforced cleaning and disinfection of the premises at regular intervals with particular attention on communal areas.
- Information around the school to remind students and teachers of good hygiene practices.
- Disinfectant hand gel and tissues stationed at every entrance. Classrooms will also be well-stocked with tissues, gels and cleansing wipes.
- Infrared thermometers.
- One way systems within the school. Arrows in the corridors and lines to indicate social distancing according to government regulations.
- Clearing of furniture to allow social distancing.
- Plans to split students into groups known as 'Bubbles'
- Plans for adjusted timetables to stagger the school day including breaks and lunches in order to avoid agglomerations of people.
- Plans to use additional spaces as classrooms e.g the gym and the theatre to ensure social distancing regulations are adhered to.
- Additional teaching staff are being employed to cater for reduced class sizes and split groups.
- Plans to inform all students and staff that they must stay at home and self-isolate if they or a family member develop any symptoms of Covid-19.

All arrangements are being made in line with guidance from the Government Education and Health Departments and following a full review and risk assessment by our Covid Committee.



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The situation and guidelines are continually changing and we are preparing for every eventuality and I must stress that all of our plans are preliminary. Over the summer, we will continue to review the information we receive from the government and adjust our plans accordingly.

Before the start of term we share more information with you and ask for you to go through this information with your children at home in preparation for the return to school. Above all, it will be important for our entire school community to continue to work together to ensure that the return to school is safe and that the students' learning can continue with as little disruption as possible.