



Bulletin 1 from Principal, Ms. O' Connor – 12th August 2020

Dear parents/guardians and students,

I know that a lot of families are anxious about the return to school and others are excited! It is important to note however, that, while we currently still planning, we have had to make essential changes to the daily life of RCS for everyone in the building. I will use this bulletin to keep you all informed of these changes and updates. We have 3 main aims:

1. To re-open our school in as safe a manner as is possible.
2. To keep Covid-19 out of our buildings but respond swiftly and appropriately if necessary.
3. To return to meaningful and engaged learning and teaching.

Measures to date include:

- The school has its detailed Covid-19 Response Plan in place and is working through the measures contained therein on a daily basis as we prepare for re-opening. This plan will be placed on the school website within the next fortnight.
- We are currently making some adjustments to room allocations on the timetable to minimise the amount of movement by students around the school.
- We have changed to a 1- hour timetable and this will significantly reduce movement through the building.
- Sanitizers, gel, dispensers, PPE are being ordered.
- All bathrooms will have warm running water.
- A one way system through all buildings and rooms is currently being designed.
- Signage will be placed around the school upon receipt of posters from the Department of Education and Skills (DES).
- Plans are being developed to stagger both the break and lunch times so as to reduce the number of students congregating at the one time.
- We are working with the canteen to continue to provide lunches to students. This system will be changed dramatically and we will inform you of same.
- I am preparing separate guidelines for students, staff and parents in relation to Covid-19 measures that will be issued prior to the commencement of term.
- Students will be expected to wear school uniform as normal.
- Individual timetables for all students will be available on VSWare before returning to school. We will inform students how to access this. You will have access as normal through VSWare.
- The main school office is closed to all. Telephone and email queries will be most welcome. Parents are asked not to call to the school in person until further notice.



- All students are being asked to wear appropriate face masks/coverings in line with DES guidelines. I shall keep you fully informed of policy in this regard in the coming weeks.
- It is absolutely essential that no students or staff will have been abroad in the 14 day period prior to the commencement of the new school year.
- Every single member of the RCS school community – staff, students and parents – has to exercise personal responsibility in relation to Covid-19 prevention measures if our school is to re-open and then stay open. We all know by now what these measures are. Let's just be sure that we implement them in full.
- Below is our opening schedule. Please read carefully and only send your child to school on the correct days as per the timetable.

Ms. O' Connor

Re-opening schedule 2020-2021

Date:	Groups	Time	Topics
Friday August 28 th	Staff Only	8.50am-1.10pm	Induction
Monday August 31 st	1 st Years only	8.50am-1.10pm	Induction
Tuesday September 1 st	6 th Years and LCA 2s only	8.50am-1.10pm	Induction
Wednesday September 2 nd	3 rd Years only	8.50am -1.10pm	Induction
Thursday September 3 rd	2 nd Years only	8.50am -1.10pm	Induction
Friday September 4 th	5 th years and LCA1s only	8.50am -1.10pm	Induction
Monday September 7 th	1 st years, 6 th years and LCA 2s	8.50am-1.10pm	Classes
Tuesday September 8 th	1 st years, 6 th years, LCA2s and 3 rd years	8.50am-1.10pm	Classes
Wednesday September 9 th	All year groups return	8.50am-1.10pm	Classes
Thursday September 10 th	All year groups	8.50am-1.10pm	Classes
Friday September 11 th	All year groups	8.50-1.10pm	Classes
Monday September 14 th	School as normal	8.50am-4pm	Classes

School operating times from 2020-2021

Monday to Thursday 8.50am-4pm

Friday 8.50am-1.10pm