

Bulletin 27 for Parents/Guardians

24-March-2021

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 remind you all however, that we have made essential changes to the daily life of RCS for everyone in the building.

We had 3 main aims last August and they remain the same -

- 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. This plan is on the school website.
 - Sanitizers, gel, dispensers, PPE are in place and available.
 - All bathrooms have warm running water.
 - A one way system through all buildings and rooms is in place.
- Signage is around the school upon receipt of posters from the Department of Education and Skills (DES).
 - Students will be expected to wear school uniform as normal.
- 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.
- 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.

A few important COVID-19 reminders/notices:

- Full Covid-19 measures are in place as before. School transport will run as normal.
 - I cannot stress how important student compliance is, this includes eating outdoors in dry weather, one-way systems, wearing masks PROPERLY, and NOT mixing with other year groups.
 - The school canteen will be open. <u>Please top up fobs</u>. Your child should have NO REASON to go to the local shop in the morning. We do not have the personnel to monitor this but appeal to your persuasion here.
 - o Please ensure that your child has their **own mask AND spares**. Thank you.
 - Parents/Guardians must complete a <u>Return To School Form</u> for their Child/ren in order for them return. This form can be completed online. It will be sent to you via text after Easter Sunday.

• Covid-19 reminders!



- Students self-isolate or restrict their movements at home if they display any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and contact their family doctor to arrange a test.
- o Students cannot return to or attend school in the event of the following:
 - if they are identified by the HSE as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19
 - If they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus
 - If they have travelled outside of Ireland; in such instances staff are advised to consult and follow latest Government advice in relation to foreign travel.
 - Parents and Students must cooperate with any public health officials and the school for contact tracing purposes and follow any public health advice in the event of a case or outbreak in the school;
 - Students must have their own cloth mask AND spares please.
 - All other Covid-19 mitigation measures are still in place hand sanitising, physical distancing, one way system etc.

Link to demonstrate proper hand washing - https://tinyurl.com/yywf4kdr

Other notices:

 It has come to our (Wexford Chamber) attention that Broadband access has presented many challenges for Businesses and people across the wider County Wexford Community. We would like to determine if Broadband access is a major issue across County Wexford and if so, we will build it into our lobbying schedule for the next quarter. If you could take the time to complete our **two-minute survey**, we would welcome your input.

Survey Link: https://s.surveyplanet.com/l95RRxFYh

The closing date to complete the survey is close of Business on Friday 9th of April.

- 2. Please adhere to the **new line painting** on the school grounds. The hard courts are now lined as a car park with a one-way system and yellow boxes in place.
- 3. If you are **driving your child** to school, they are only to be dropped from 8.30am onwards.
- 4. Please do not park in the **BUS ONLY** areas at the school gates. This is crucial for H&S and traffic movement.
- 5. The closing date for Bus Ticket applications is April 30th! DO NOT miss this deadline, as our school is growing bus routes are changing. Bus Eireann will NOT accommodate you if you miss the deadline. Please go the their website to apply ASAP.

Thank you all for your continued support,
Stay safe,

Rachel O' Connor,

Principal.