



Bulletin 7 for Parents/Guardians – 4th November 2021

School Updates – Covid-19

Dear Parent/Guardians:

It is very important that we do not get complacent and that we all fully cooperate with public health and advice and always err on the side of caution if your child displays ANY of the symptoms below:

i.e. If in doubt please keep your child out

<https://youtu.be/0LVQFBNf3b4> Please click on the link for latest advice from HSE.

We are asking you to please:

1. Please keep an eye on their health and to check for symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms of Covid-19 can include some or all of the following - fever (temperature of 38°C or higher), cough, shortness of breath, any loss or change to the senses of smell or taste, headache, sore throat, or a runny nose. If any pupil develops these symptoms, they must self-isolate and contact their GP for advice regarding a COVID-19 test.
2. Public Health Encourages all those who are eligible for vaccination within your school community to access appropriate information around this (available at <https://www2.hse.ie/screening-and-vaccinations/covid-19-vaccine/>) For those wishing to arrange vaccination, they can do so at either:
 - a. Register using the HSE Vaccine portal (<https://vaccine.hse.ie/#register>)
 - b. **OR** phone the HSE at 1800 700 700

Colder weather:

As part of the mitigation measures against Covid-19 we must ensure ventilation in classrooms and so a minimum of 1 window and the classroom door must remain open at all times. Please ensure that your child is wearing adequate layers (under the school uniform). The heating in the school is on for longer also.

Lockers:

Lockers are still not available to students. This is under review, but with the current numbers of Covid-19 cases the school is not in a position to re-introduce them at this time. **When students are at lockers it is incredibly crowded and we consider it to be a very high risk in terms of transmission.** Unfortunately, we do not have the space in the school to spread lockers out. We are doing our very best to try to keep your children safe. We have no idea of the levels of vaccination etc. within the building and so must continue to err on the side of caution.

Please note: Students only have 6 classes per day and should at this stage be able to access e-books online. All teachers showed student how to access these books at the beginning of the year. Also, students can use TEAMS to access work etc. also. If your child is carrying home



excess books please check your child's timetable on VShare to ensure that only necessary books are in the bag. e.g. optional subjects only 3 times per week, only 4 classes on Fridays, students may have PE etc.

It is my hope to re-introduce lockers on a phased basis when it is safe to do so. Please trust that we do not make this decision lightly.

As always, I want to thank you for your cooperation and support,

Every best wish,

Rachel O' Connor,
Principal.