



HM Letter to Parents on Reopening School – 20/08/20

Dear Parent and Guardian

Please find below more detail on the first week of school and some general information about the school day based on current guidelines. I appreciate there may be inconveniences in week 1 for families with children in different year groups, especially boarders. The purpose of the staggered start days/times is to give the students and staff time to embed the new protocols as we build up the numbers each day, and to identify any processes to improve upon for week 2 and the remainder of term.

For the health and safety of our entire school community, there will be a need to remain flexible and adaptive, in step with the guidance provided. Covid-19 emergency measures are dynamic and subject to change. We are currently following version 2 of the government's [Covid-19 Response Plan for reopening our post primary schools](#).

Morning starts & evening pick-ups for day students

All drop off and pick-ups can only take place at the chapel car park in a new one-way system. After induction day Forms 1 & 3 enter at the Sports Hall, Forms 2, 4 & 5 at the Mercer Door.

New arrival times: 08:15 for Forms 1, 2 & 3, 08:30 for Forms 4, 5 & 6.

In order to maintain physical distancing in locations such as locker areas, time spent there in the morning, breaks, lunch, and after school, will have to be reduced. We have moved and rearranged the locker spaces to mitigate this as much as possible, but they remain a high traffic area. Where possible, please do not drop your child to school any earlier than the times listed and all day students must be off school campus by 18:00. Supervision will not be in place outside these times. We realise that this morning requirement will not always be possible due to school bus schedules and siblings being dropped off together, but if we can limit this to the exceptions, it will make a difference.

New finishing times: 15:40 for Forms 1, 2 & 3 and 15:45 for Forms 4, 5 & 6

There are 3 options available to day students after school:

- Extra-curricular activity attendance
- Supervised study in the Mahony Room
- Go home as soon as classes end at either 15:40 or 15:45

Day students **are not permitted** to leave the school campus and return for collection.

Chapel Services

There will be no chapel service for the multiple year groups each morning but the Chapel will be used initially for drop off, inductions and larger meetings. Morning chapel has always formed an integral part of our school ethos and wellbeing program so suitable alternatives will be provided for the students and community once school routines are established.

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGES FOR BOARDERS RETURN ON NEXT PAGE





Date & Arrival Times	FORM 1 INDUCTION & WEEK 1 SCHEDULE
Friday 28 th August Form 1 09:30-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1 Induction for day & boarding students (no parents permitted to enter school buildings, drop off & collection at chapel only) No uniform required, no need to bring any books, bags or boarding supplies. Key messages will be recorded & link sent to parents. 7-day Boarders unable to stay over the weekend, to allow for room cleaning after Overseas Residential Camp. (Email khadmissions@thekingshospital.ie) Form 1 will receive induction & week agenda separately.
Sunday 30 th August Form 1 Boarders Return 20:00	Students only in school buildings – Parking for boys at Reception Carpark and boys enter at reception. Parking for girls at Chapel Carpark and enter at the Mercer Door.
Monday 31 st August Form 1 08:45-13:30 Form 4 Boarders 13:30 Form 4 14:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1 meet at Chapel 08:45 – full uniform for class photo, HB pencils & rubber only. (see separate agenda) All Form 1 invited to stay for complimentary hot lunch – collect at 13:30 Form 4 bag drop off 13:30 location TBC Form 4 Induction for day & boarding Chapel 14:00-16:00 Form 4 Boarders shown to rooms 16:00
Tuesday 1 st September Form 1 08:15- 15:40 Form 4 08:30 – 15:45 Form 6 Boarders 13:30 Form 6 all 14:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1 – go to locker area for 08:15 – no books required Form 1 CAT 4 Scholarship Exam - HB pencils only Form 1 Orienteering & Social Sport – PE Uniform Form 4 full school day – meet at Chapel only 08:30 Form 6 boarders bag drop off 13:30 – Chapel only Form 6 Induction day & boarding Chapel 14:00-16:00 Form 6 Boarders shown to rooms 16:00
Wednesday 2 nd September Form 1 08:15- 13:00 Form 1 Sport 14-16:00 Form 4, 6 08:30 – 13:00 Form 3 Boarders 10:30 Form 3 all 11:00-13:00	See separate Sports timetable Wed, Thurs, Fri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1 – full day - sports in afternoon Form 4 & 6 half day but sports programme running Form 3 boarders bag drop off 10:30 - Chapel only Form 3 Induction day & boarding in Chapel 11:00-13:00 Form 3 Boarders shown to rooms 13:00
Thursday 3 rd September Form 1 & 3 08:15-15:40 Form 4 & 6 08:45-15:45 Form 5 Boarders 13:30 Form 5 all 14:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1, 3, 4, & 6 full day + sport Form 5 boarders bag drop off 13:30 – Chapel only Form 5 Induction day & boarding in Chapel 14:00-16:00 Form 5 Boarders shown to rooms 16:00
Friday 4 th September Form 1 & 3 08:15-15:40 Form 4, 5, 6 08:45-15:45 Form 2 Boarders 13:30 Form 2 all 14:00-16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1, 3, 4, 5, & 6 - full day + sport Form 2 boarders bag drop off 13:30 – Chapel only Form 2 Induction day & boarding in Chapel 14:00-16:00 Form 2 Boarders shown to rooms 16:00





Sports & ECA's – [Derek Maybury](#) & [Kerrie O'Reilly](#)

We are working towards offering a full ECA, Sports, and Performing Arts programme this academic year, while adhering to Government COVID safety guidelines.

An email will follow with details of how students can log in to SOCS and register for their choice of activities. Through this app parents can also log in to view details of the activities their son/daughter has chosen to participate in. At their year group inductions, students will be brought through the Covid-related protocols that are now necessary for their sports.

An update of our programme for Singing, Instrumental and Drama classes as well as the Performing Arts annual programme will be sent early next week. In the meantime, a broad outline of the extra-curricular programme can be found here <https://www.kingshospital.ie/Extra-Curricular>.

Most students can look forward to a resumption of sporting activities in week 1 as per the timetable below. Day students will not be able to shower or change after training but can enter school to get their bags before heading home. Separate email to Form 1 on sports essentials.

Sports Timetable	Week 1
<p>Wednesday 2nd September Form 1 14:00-16:00 Form 4 & 6 Junior Rugby Team Senior Rugby Team</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 1 – Girls 45 mins each of Basketball & Hockey • Form 1 – Boys 45 mins each of Rugby & Hockey • Forms 4 & 6 Badminton 13:45-15:15 • JCT Training as usual • SCT Training as usual
<p>Thursday 3rd September Form 1 16:00-17:00 Gym 16:00-17:00 Running 16:00-17:00 Yoga 16:00-17:00 TY Rugby 16:00-17:00 Jnr Boys/Girls Hockey Snr Boys/Girls Hockey Snr Girls Basketball Gym 17:00-18:00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 1 Girls Basketball • Form 1 Boys Rugby • Gym HIIT Form 4-6 16:00-17:00 • Yoga – Form 3 + 16:00-17:00 • Running Club – Form 3 + 16:00-17:00 • TY Rugby 16:00-17:00 • Form 3 & 4 Jnr Boys & Girls Hockey 17:00-18:00 • Form 5 & 6 Snr Boys & Girls Hockey 17:00-18:00 • Snr Girls U16 & U19 Basketball 17:00-18:00 • Gym S&C Form 4-6 17:00-18:00
<p>Friday 4th September Form 1 16:00-17:00 Junior Rugby Team Senior Rugby Team Girls Rugby Snr Boys Basketball Gym 16:00-17:00 Form 3-6 Rowing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 1 - Girls & Boys Hockey 16:00-17:00 • JCT & SCT Rugby 16:00-17:00 • Girls Rugby Form 2+ 16:00-17:00 • Snr Boys U16 & U19 Basketball 16:00-17:00 • Rowing Form 3-6 16:00-17:30 • Gym Form 4-6 Advanced S&C 16:00-17:00



Lunch

Our lunch service will undergo a radical change for the first half of term as we adapt to the health and safety protocols necessary to maintain physical distancing and cleaning regimes. All protocols will be reviewed after 4 weeks and we hope to reinstate some previous options after mid-term, once we have had a chance to assess the new format. Cash wallet will not be an option in the first half of term as the catering team assess the flow of traffic through the dining and Wilson Wright Hall. There will only be a 3-course hot lunch option available, which must be paid for at the beginning of term to allow the catering team to plan for the numbers entering the halls each day. To reduce time in the queue allowing for distancing, there will be only one meat option in addition to the other non-meat and dietary/allergen-related servings. Students will sit appropriately spaced at tables and there will be 2 lunch sittings.

All boarder meals are included in the boarding fee. Day students may bring a packed lunch and depending on numbers signing up for hot lunch can sit in the halls or an alternate designated space as assigned by their houseperson.

Recap of lunch options

- 3-course hot lunch - meat or non-meat/dietary requirement option payable one term in advance.
- Returning day students – parents log into www.ipayimpact.co.uk to sign up for Winter term €485.
- If students forget their PIN they will be reissued at start of year inductions by housepeople.
- No cash wallet available to order hot lunch or snack bar due to space planning for first half of term, then to be reviewed.
- Parents of new day students will be sent unique student reference code next week to allow sign up for hot lunch for the term - €485.
- Students can bring a cold packed lunch and will have designated seating area.

Lunch Rebates – Day Students

Spring Termly Lunch (Jan to April 2020)

Due to the mandated school closure in March 2020, parents who paid the spring term for the hot lunch option will receive a rebate of €85. This amount will be refunded to you over the coming weeks or alternatively this can be applied to your fee account as a credit. The Finance Department will be in contact with you shortly on the refund process.

Cash Wallet Balances

As mentioned above, we cannot offer the cash wallet option for the start of this academic year. For students with a credit balance on their cash wallet account from last year, this will be carried forward to be used when the cash wallet option becomes available. If you require a refund of your account balance then please email us at finance@thekingshospital.ie.





Student Welcome Pack & Video

All students will receive a school face-mask and lanyard at their induction, in addition to a 'Hygiene Hook' key chain, which can be used to press key pads & open/close doors with handles, without skin contact. Instructional videos on return to school protocols have been filmed and will be sent to students.

Uniform Supplier

Uniformity are unable to set up their pop-up shop in school this year so please check our [Parent Information section](#) for their Covid-19 shopping guidelines along with other back to school information such as booklists, etc.

Boarding Covid-19 Protocols

Boarding protocols are being finalised with our cleaning staff, so more detail will be provided for boarding families on day-to-day routines and laundry on Monday, along with an instructional video. It is recommended that all boarding students have 2 sets of school uniform, PE clothes, casual wear, bed linen and towels. All new boarding protocols will be explained to students at their year group inductions, on return.

Mentors & Prefects

The Mentor & Prefects induction and training takes place on Thursday 27th August from 12:15 – 16:15. Although boarders were previously invited to stay overnight due to their required attendance at the Form 1 induction on Friday 28th August from 09:30-11:30, that is no longer possible due to our International Students finishing out their quarantine. Apologies for any inconvenience to those families.

Information to be provided in follow-up emails

- Form 1 agenda and detailed schedule
- Sports Covid-19 protocols and SOCS sign-up
- Extra-Curricular Covid-19 protocols & lessons updates
- Boarding protocols
- Covid-19 Medical Protocols for all student cohorts
- Wellbeing programme for return to school
- Assigned Housepeople and contact details

Please email my PA, [Lorraine Walker](#), with any questions around the return to school, and she will forward them on to the relevant staff member.

Yours

Mark Ronan
Headmaster / Principal

