



Headmaster's email to Parents – School Reopening 29-07-20

Dear Parent & Guardian

I hope that you have had the opportunity during the summer to recharge somewhat and catch up with family and friends.

We include in the links below information provided by the Department of Education on the reopening of post-primary schools at the end of August. There is still a lot of detail to be provided in the coming weeks so we will be keeping you updated regularly during August and creating a new section – Reopening School – on our website.

- [Letter to Parents from Minister of Education, Norma Foley TD](#)
- [Roadmap for School Reopening 27-07-20](#)
- [Covid-19 Response Plan for the safe reopening of post primary schools 27-7-20](#)

We welcome the Roadmap for School Reopening and Response Plan but in effect have been preparing for reopening all summer and now that the distance requirements for classrooms has been published in the roadmap, can move ahead to finish our fit out of classrooms to accommodate this. As a fee-charging school, we have been informed that we are not entitled to the supports outlined in the roadmap. As we considered this a possibility, we remained cautious in our financial planning and rest assured we are committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for our entire school community to reconnect and thrive in.

Some of the work that continues to be carried out includes:

- The purchase of single-seated desks for all students.
- Creating more space in classroom and corridors.
- Creating a one-way system for students to move through the school.
- Additional supports for our Medical Centre.
- Isolation facilities if there is a suspected case in the school.
- Increasing the size and expanding the locations of locker areas.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes throughout the day with advanced disinfecting products.
- Staggered meal times.
- Strict visitor guidelines and contact tracing.

Our Covid-19 Response Team are meeting on Thursday to discuss in detail the Return to School Roadmap and meticulously plan for the final stages of our return to school.

As you aware from my email on the 30th June, we will be observing strict return-to-school protocols in tandem with mandated return-to-work protocols. All of our overseas students, new and returning, have now signed up one of three options; KH residential camp, staying with a host family or restricting movement with their families for the 2 weeks preceding the start of school. Due to the ever-changing nature of this pandemic, we ask that, all returning and new students, do not return to school until 2 weeks has passed, if they travel outside Ireland after the 16th of August. We will be emailing a return-to-school/work form to all members of the school community just before school starts.

I will be in contact with you next week after our team has met, to provide more detail on our Reopening School Plan.

Yours,

Mark Ronan

Headmaster/Principal