



12-06-20

Dear Parent and Guardian

In a press conference this afternoon the Minister for Education, Joe McHugh said 'the overarching objective of the Government is to have everybody back in class when schools return, but it has to be done in a safe way.' The government has prepared a Framework for Reopening and Operating Schools that is in line with the Roadmap for reopening Society and Business and will be updated in June and July. We have already begun preparations for a safe return to school for students and staff, which includes enhanced visitor and student registration to assist in contact tracing, and we will be aligning our plan as the government reveals more details and Public Health guidance as the summer progresses. See more under the 'Return to School' section.

The Taoiseach Leo Varadkar also spoke about travel into and out of Ireland saying 'travel restrictions will remain in place but will be reviewed in two weeks'. This is of particular interest to our overseas families who are waiting to book flights to return to school and we hope to have more clarity from government at the end of those two weeks.

As the Covid-19 Pandemic continues to adversely affect many families, our thoughts and best wishes remain with you.

### **Return to school – [Cormac Ua Bruadair](#)**

We continue to engage with the HSE, JMB and other boarding schools to ensure best practice measures are followed for a safe return to school. The Department of Education today published a [Framework for Reopening and Operating Schools](#), which is a working document. Contained in the Framework are the following key activities underway to implement the optimum model for reopening schools:

1. Overall objective is to open schools in accordance with the normal start of the new school year to the fullest extent while minimising the risks from a public health perspective. Arrangements will allow for new routines to be established and bedded in within schools.
2. Public health guidance
3. Guidance and templates to enable schools comply with the requirements of the national Return to Work Safely Protocol.
4. Awareness raising and training
5. Enhanced cleaning regime
6. Good hand hygiene
7. Mental health and Wellbeing
8. Teaching and learning and curriculum
9. Blended learning/alternative provision
10. Consultation and Communication

### **School access**

The school buildings remain closed to all but essential workers. A female member of staff will pack the belongings of all female students and a male member of staff for male students over the coming week. The bags will be available for collection, as travel restrictions allow, until the end of June. The belongings will be stored centrally in late June but will not be accessible from July 1st until August 15th. Parents can arrange a collection time by emailing Eddie Keogh at [facilities@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:facilities@thekingshospital.ie). Parents will be given a time slot to arrive at



## Headmaster Email to Parents 12-06-20

school and a member of staff will bring the bags out and place them in the boot of the car. Many thanks for your continued cooperation with this process

### **Academics – [Siobhán Daly](#)**

Current Form 5 students have received their subject choices via their school email. Any student who wishes to change an allocated subject can email [F5subjectchoice@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:F5subjectchoice@thekingshospital.ie) and we will do our best to make the change, if at all possible.

Book Lists are now available at <https://www.kingshospital.ie/parent-information>.

End of term reports for Forms 1, 2, 4 & 5, will be available to view on the SIMS parent app over the weekend. There will be no comments from housepersons on this report but each subject teacher will have a comment next to the end of term assessment grade. If you have not yet downloaded the SIMS parent app please email [r.shaw@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:r.shaw@thekingshospital.ie) for assistance.

Form 3 students will not receive their end of term assessment results as the grades will be incorporated into a Certificate of Achievement to be awarded in September, which will also recognise CBA's, previous assessments, projects and practicals.

### **Well-Being – [John Aiken](#)**

Although school is now closed for the summer, we continue to offer continuity of well-being care to our students, if they find themselves struggling due to the effects of the Pandemic or any issues. Our school counsellor, Clair Breen, Chaplain, and the school nurses have all kindly agreed to remain available to students throughout the summer. They can be contacted by text or email to arrange a call back.

- Counsellor — [counsellor@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:counsellor@thekingshospital.ie) or text: 0879267507
- Chaplain — <mailto:chaplain@thekingshospital.ie>
- Nurses — [nurses@thekingshospital.ie](mailto:nurses@thekingshospital.ie) or text: 0863277781

### **RIAM Exams – [Kerrie O'Reilly](#)**

Final reminder for RIAM exam upload by midnight on June 14th. Please follow this [How to Guide for recording performances](#).

### **KH Student starring in Disney Movie**

Congratulations to TY student Lara McDonnell who stars in the movie adaptation of Eoin Colfer's 'Artemis Fowl' book series. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the movie was unable to be released in theatres so premieres today on the Disney + streaming channel. Lara has contributed enormously to the performing arts in KH since 1<sup>st</sup> year, while simultaneously building a successful acting career. Her music and drama teachers are extremely proud of her achievements. Lara plays the lead role of 'Holly Short' alongside Colin Farrell and Dame Judi Dench. Watch the movie trailer [here](#).

Despite the inclement weather I do hope you continue to enjoy the easing of restrictions.

Yours,

Mark Ronan

Headmaster/Principal