



Coláiste Dún an Rí

Kingscourt, Co.Cavan

Principal: Fergal Boyle
Deputy Principal: Tara Mullan
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27 July 2020

Re: Return to school arrangements

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope that you are all well and managing to enjoy the summer break.

Today the Minister for Education announced guidelines and protocols concerning arrangements for the return of students and staff to school at the end of August. This is the first guidance we have received from the Department of Education relating to schools reopening

We now have four weeks to prepare for a return that keeps students and staff safe in the current circumstance. While we have undertaken planning and changes in anticipation of the guidelines, we have not taken any decisions in relation to what the return and day to day school life will look like. The guidelines are wide ranging and over the coming days we will be looking at what the guidelines mean for Coláiste Dún an Rí, what the impacts will be and how we can implement the protocols. This will take a period of time as we undertake risk assessments and look at procedures that will help keep students and staff safe. This is a very challenging undertaking, but we will do our best.

At the start of term, we will have approximately 530 students and 50 staff. The school community has grown considerably. We have to cater for all the community, and you will appreciate that this will take time to plan and that difficult decisions will have to be made which will, unfortunately, result in significant changes to how we engage with school life. I know you will want definite information, and this will be communicated once we have a finalised plan in mid-August. I still intend to follow the return to school dates outlined and circulated to parents at the end of May (see below) and it is the intention to have all

year groups back in school as normal. If changes need to be made, I will let you know. I know that I will have your support and understanding when the time comes.

As a parent, I know that both students and parents may be worried and nervous about the return to school. This is only natural given the circumstances. We will do our utmost to try and ensure that the return is as smooth and as safe as possible.

In the meantime, please prepare for school 'as normal' regarding uniform, books and equipment. Regarding bus transport, I have not had any communication from Bus Eireann but I presume that they will be in contact with you directly.

If you need to contact the school I ask you to continue to follow the procedure of emailing info@colaistedunanri.ie to request a call back or have your queries answered.

Finally, I want to wish you all well for the remainder of the school break. On behalf of myself, Tara and the staff I look forward to seeing all students back in school at the end of August.

Yours sincerely,


Fergal Boyle

Return to School Arrangement Autumn 2020

28 August (Friday)	First Year Teambuilding Trip
31 August (Monday)	First Year Students 8:45 – 12:30
1 September (Tuesday)	First and Third Years 8:45 – 12:30
2 September (Wednesday)	First, Second and Third Year 8:45 – 13:10
3 September (Thursday)	First, Second, Third and Fifth Years 8:45 – 13:46
4 September (Friday)	All students 8:45 – 13:46

Note: This may be subject to change depending on advice from the HSE related to COVID 19