

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians

We have now completed two weeks of return to school under the New School Day Guidance. I would like to commend our students for their co-operation with the rules and procedures that have been put in place. Students are following the requirement to wear face coverings and have on their possession hand sanitiser and tissues. The staff of the College are appreciative of the responsible attitude that the student body, supported by parents/ guardians has demonstrated.

You are asked to ensure that your son brings face coverings to school with him every day. While we recognise that sometimes these can be forgotten or damaged, you are advised we will not be able to continue to provide replacements without charge.

There are some further matters that I would like to bring to your attention and which I would ask you to emphasise to your son.

Students are asked to sanitise their hands as they enter and leave each classroom and to wash their hands as frequently as practicable throughout the school day.

Students are instructed to remain with their class or year group and are asked to ensure they do not mix with students in other year groups.

DE and Translink requests students to wear face coverings on transport to and from school. This request is being applied to all private bus companies along with school and public Translink services. We are instructing students leaving the College to wear face coverings on all buses. I would appreciate your co-operation in ensuring your son adheres to this request.

Thank you for observing the new drop off and collection arrangements at the pavilion. Thank you also for not parking on the avenue adjacent to the pavilion.

Currently there is no intention to change the end of school arrangements. The staggered leaving times will remain in place until further notice.

Students are allowed to wear PE clothing all day when they have a practical PE class. While students **must** wear their St. Colman's PE uniform, they are encouraged to wear St. Colman's leisure wear (half zips, round necks, skinny bottoms) where available. These items can be purchased in O'Neill's Newry.

S1 to S4 students need to be particularly aware of the importance of future assessments which will be taken throughout the year. Your son is encouraged to ensure he applies himself as fully as possible to all his work and to assessment tasks in particular.

The link below is a letter to parents/ carers from the **Chief Medical Office Dr. Michael McBride** in relation to the reopening of schools.

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/Letter%20from%20Chief%20Medical%20Officer%20to%20Parent%20Carers.pdf>

along with a leaflet **Information for Parents and Carers**

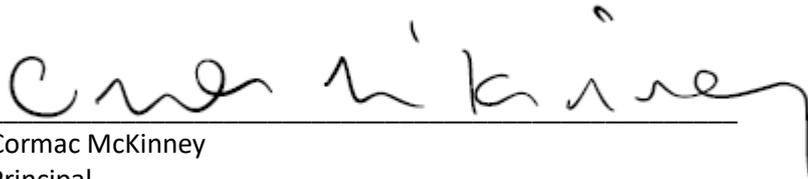
<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/012176%20Department%20of%20Education%20Parent%20%26%20Carer%20Information%20A4%20NEW%20HR.PDF>

or on mobile devices

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/Parent%20%26%20Carer%20Information%20mobile%20device.pdf>

Thank you for your co-operation and support. We will continue to keep you informed of future developments, as and when they arise.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cormac McKinney". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Cormac McKinney  
Principal