

16th March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing to provide you with an update following my previous letter 4-3-2021.

We look forward to our Y12 – Y14 students returning to school next Monday, 22-3-2021. While this will be welcomed by students and parents/guardians alike, there will also be some feelings of anxiety associated with return to school and the outworking of finalising **Centre Determined Grades**. We are very aware that students will need encouragement and support.

The staff of the College are working very hard to ensure that the procedures which will be in place for Centre Determined Grades will be as fair as possible for each student, focused on what he has been able to demonstrate that he knows, understands and can do, and will consider the circumstances that each student has had to endure throughout this Covid-19 pandemic. We are working on the arrangements which are needed for the determination of each student's Centre Determined Grades. Once these have been finalised, parents/guardians and students will be provided with a summary of the procedures to be followed. I have attached a **Key Facts** document published by CCEA in relation to CDGs. I can confirm that most assessments which will be completed by Y12 – Y14 students will take place after Easter. In a small number of subjects, there will be a class-based assessment prior to Easter, but students will already have been informed about this. Most of the assessments your son will take will be in the form of class tests.

As of this morning, while confirmation is to be received from DENI, the news is reporting that the intention of the Executive is to allow **all students** to return to school after the Easter holidays on Monday 12-4-2021. We will keep you updated when confirmation is received.

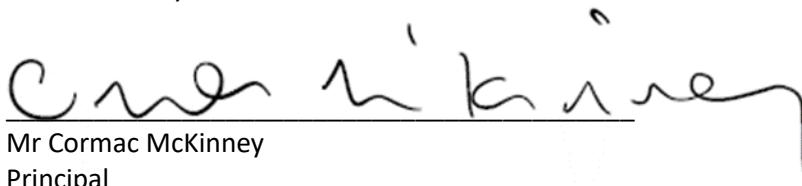
You are reminded that when students return, all relevant DENI and PHA guidance will be followed, with a particular emphasis on retaining year group bubbles and wearing face masks on corridors, in classrooms and on transport to and from the College. Each student should ensure that his year group badge is clearly visible on his blazer.

As previously stated, we recognise that learning at home has been intense for your son, for you and your family. As a result, we have allocated a third **Consolidation Day on Thursday 18-3-2021**. Again, your son will be able to use this time to review his work and to ensure that he knows and understands the topics which have been covered to date. There will be no remote teaching taking place on this day as members of staff will be involved in work associated with Centre Determined Grades and return to face-to-face teaching.

Senior students are reminded about the need to adhere to PHA guidance with respect to social gatherings. Students are reminded that they should not do anything which would compromise their return to school on Monday and are specifically reminded about the detail contained in the joint letter from the Universities, Higher Education Institutions/Colleges and statutory bodies in relation to adhering to the "**Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives**" message, particularly over the St. Patrick's Day holiday.

Keep safe, stay well and have a Happy St. Patrick's Day

Yours faithfully


Mr Cormac McKinney
Principal