Dear Parent (s)/Guardian(s),

While we are all eagerly anticipating the reopening of our schools a lot has happened since we last met in person on the 12th of March. In order to adhere to HSE/NPHET Guidelines it is envisaged that school will be quite different for the next year to what it has been in the past.

We wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you our students, parents, and staff that we have taken guidance from the Government's Roadmap and Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of schools. We have reviewed, researched, planned, and re-planned so that every viable option was explored to ensure that we can have our students and staff safely back in school.

A suite of measures has been adopted to ensure that your child and our staff are safe, see our Response Plan here and the addendum to our code of behaviour here. Following consultation with the Board of Management, the Covid Response Team have implemented the following changes:

1. School will start at 8.55. There will be three access points to the school building.

- ✓ Senior Cycle students will use the door to the left of the main entrance.
- ✓ Junior Cycle students will use the main entrance.
- ✓ Staff will use the door to the right of the main entrance.

2. Everyone will be required to sanitize their hands on entering and leaving the building.

3. A one-way system will be in place to direct students around the school safely.

4. Signage will give clear guidance to students.

5. Lockers and bag racks will not be accessible to students therefore students should only bring a small bag containing a pencil case and A4 sheets or anything else directed by their teacher.

6. On arrival to school students will go straight to their first class of the day as per their timetable.

7. Desks have been arranged to keep students 1m apart

8. Students will sanitize their hands prior to entering the classrooms.

9. Students should wash their hands regularly, socially distance and wear a mask.

10.Students must practice good respiratory etiquette. Students should consider having their own bottle of hand sanitizer.

11. Two reusable face masks will be given to all students on their return to school. The reusable face mask needs to be cleaned each day.

12. Students who are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons may wear a face visor.

13. Classroom windows and doors will remain open; students may need to consider additional clothing.

14. Students must not share books or any other materials.

15. When a full class cannot socially distance in a room, a small number of students on a rotation basis will take part in the class remotely. Each student will be required to have a set of headphones or earbuds.

16. Students will sanitize their desk and chair at the end of each lesson.

17. Students may wear their PE gear to school on the day they have PE.

18. Extra-curricular activities will not be taking place for the time being.

19. The canteen will have a reduced menu. All food must be preordered and will come wrapped

20. A deep clean will take place at the end of each school day.

21. Students must be kept at home if they are exhibiting any of the Covid-19 symptoms.

22. Students should stay at home and quarantine if they have returned from a country not on the Green list. Please refer to www.gov.ie for latest advice.

23. If a student displays symptoms during the day they will be brought to an isolation room and a parent will be contacted and requested to collect their child immediately. The parent/guardian will need to ring their GP for advice.

24. We ask that parents coming into school be kept to the absolute minimum and for essential visits only, by appointment. All visitors will be required to sign and complete the contact-tracing book.

25. Students will return to school on a staggered basis as per previous correspondence.

26. We will respond to any advice form the HSE/Dept. Of Education and amend our Covid-19 plans accordingly.

We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring that we can return to school in a safe and secure manner to the benefit of all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Alan Cunningham (Principal)

Sr. Ena Quinlan (Chairperson, Board of Management)