



# Newtownhamilton High School

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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Please find below some important updates that I ask you to share with your child/children.

### **Year 12 Return to School (Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March)**

As previously communicated, our Year 12 pupils return to school on Monday (22<sup>nd</sup>) morning. Our school buses will operate as normal while our canteen facility will also be available for pupils.

On arrival, pupils should sanitise/wash hands and then report to the Assembly Hall (with social distancing in place) for a short briefing from myself. Period 1 will commence as normal at 9.10am so pupils should ensure that they have all the correct learning materials with them. Pupils can continue to wear PE kit on the days that they are timetabled for PE.

### **Supervised Learning**

Our Supervised Learning provision will continue during the period Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Parents/guardians who wish to avail of this service should contact myself via email (nmegaw549@c2kni.net) before 12 noon on the day before the required date. This will allow sufficient time to sort staffing arrangements.

### **Year 8-11 Return to School (Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April)**

I have now received official confirmation that Year 8-11 pupils will return to school after the Easter holidays on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April (further details to follow). Remote Learning for these pupils will continue to be delivered up to and including Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Face Coverings**

Latest guidance issued by the Department of Education (dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March) states *“it is compulsory for post primary pupils to wear face coverings in school and at drop off pick up areas unless an exemption applies”*. Parents/guardians should contact me immediately to discuss any exemptions.

### **Qualification Procedure Day (Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March)**

All post-primary schools have been allocated 2 additional planning and administration days (known as Qualification Procedure Days) to support the creation of Year 12 Centre Determined Grades.

I have decided that our first day will take place on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Therefore, there will be no face-to-face teaching (Year 12) or remote learning (Years 8-11) on this date with the Easter holidays commencing for all pupils on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm.

### **Rapid Testing with Lateral Flow Devices**

Schools are now required to regularly test pupils and staff who do not have symptoms of COVID-19. The purpose is to find individuals who are infected but do not realise it so they can be advised to isolate so reducing the risk of them unwittingly spreading infection in the school and elsewhere. This approach makes use of a type of self-test Lateral Flow Device (LFD) which provides a result within 30 minutes. Further information will be communicated with parents/guardians (Year 12 initially) early next week.

Finally, please contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours faithfully

*Neil Megaw* (Principal)