**Measures put in place to prevent the spread of covid-19 virus**

Please find below, a list of some of the measures that we have in place in preparation for the return to school.

* Covid-19 Response plan and a return to work protocol are in place
* PPE equipment in place.
* Posters displayed re hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, social distancing, reducing interactions between large groups eg people
* Sharing and distributing information with staff at meetings, emails, website etc
* Sharing and distributing information with students at assemblies, over intercom, in classes eg sphe/guidance
* Sharing and distributing information with parents at meetings, emails, texts, website etc
* If you have symptoms of covid-19 (or if any one in your household has symptoms) do not attend school. Stay at home and phone your GP for advice.

The symptoms of covid-19 you need to watch out for are:

* High temperature
* Breathing difficulties
* A new cough
* Loss of taste or smell
* If a student presents to a teacher with the symptoms:
	+ Contact the Principal/DP
	+ Principal/DP will accompany the student to an isolation room and will contact the parents to make appropriate arrangements for the student to be collected and go home
	+ The Principal/DP will assess the situation for any follow up required eg cleaning etc
	+ Contact the HSE for further advice
* If a teacher begins to feel any covid-19 symptoms – s/he should self-isolate immediately and contact the Principal/DP
* Hand hygiene
	+ Use soap and water to clean hands
	+ Use sanitisers, towels and spray in classrooms and general areas
	+ Follow advice on hand washing/using hand gel (see video and posters)
* Respiratory etiquette
	+ Cough/sneeze into tissue (or elbow sleeve)
	+ Dispose of tissue in covered bin
	+ Wash hands
	+ See posters
* Physical distancing
	+ Keep at least 1m (2m preferable) between yourself and others
	+ Facial covering (mask/visor) required by all if you cannot maintain 2m distancing.

Masks - Each individual supplies their own mask and cleans it appropriately after use. Visors will be supplied to staff. Each staff member is responsible for the maintenance and care of their own visor.

* + Student based classrooms with year groups zoned in certain areas where possible
	+ Staggered breaks and lunches
	+ One-way system
	+ Cleared rooms
	+ Refitted rooms where possible eg prefabs
	+ Screen at hatch in main office
	+ Designated entrances and exits
	+ Students will be assigned seats in rooms. (Teachers being asked to do this after registration). This seat will be the assigned place for lunch if the student needs to stay in school at lunchtime.
	+ Restricted access to school – access only if permission given by principal
	+ Students will be encouraged to take a break outdoors during lunchtime while maintaining physical distancing. This will allow a break from mask wearing. Students will be encouraged to take a walk around the field or around the block. Students should have coats, hoods, umbrellas with them to provide protection from cold and rain. Later in the year layers/thermals may need to be worn under the uniform.
	+ Students will be instructed to clean their area in classroom/lunchroom.
	+ During optional subject blocks teachers should try to sit students in pods based on their tutor class where possible and practical eg sit students from 1A together in same area and those from 1B together etc
* Outdoor breaks or classes may take place when possible and practical
* Discouraging the sharing of items that could have touched the mouth eg mugs, knives, pens etc
* Enhanced cleaning regime in line with guidelines:
	+ All rooms were thoroughly cleaned over the summer
	+ Teacher responsible for cleaning their area in each classroom before and after class (desk, chair, computers etc)
	+ Students responsible for cleaning their area in classrooms and any equipment they use (eg desks, chairs, computers, equipment used in practical classes etc)
	+ Everyone is responsible for cleaning their own masks/visors and their own personal equipment eg mobile phones, pencil cases, mugs, cutlery etc
	+ More regular cleaning after break/lunch times of general areas eg toilets, bannisters etc
* All rooms will need to be ventilated so that there is a good air flow therefore doors and/or windows will need to be open
* Perspex screens ordered for the teacher’s desk in each classroom
* Meetings with parents and visitors will be by confirmed appointment only
* **Entrance and Exit Plan at start of day and during the school day**

Entry points – Main door by office and fire door at lift

Main exit during the day – back door

* **Exit Plan at end of school day**

Use all available exits. Change on weekly basis. Will be kept under review and is likely to be revised as students become familiar with routines.

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| Exit Time | Year Group |
| 3.35 | 1st year |
| 3.40 | 2nd year 5th year |
| 3.45 | 3rd yearTY |
| 3.50 | 6th year |

* Students are expected to co-operate fully with all additional measures that the school has in place to help prevent the spread of covid-19. Any breaches of regulations will be dealt with under the school code of behaviour.