



Holy Faith Secondary School
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21st September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Many thanks for your continued forbearance as the school community adjusts to the new normal and the every changing directives that are affecting our lives in and out of school. I would like to thank and congratulate all our students on settling back in to school so well and adhering good naturedly to the many protocols and directives that now shape their day.

Issues regarding Wifi seem to have settled but I have requested that our upgrade, scheduled for March 2021, be brought forward as a matter of urgency. We continue to make adjustments to the timetable to minimise the movement of students and maximise classroom capacity in line with DES guidelines.

We are anxious to proceed with our programme of extra-curricular activities and new regulations regarding activities will be factored in.

As part of our contingency planning to facilitate remote teaching and learning, 6th years on Friday 25th September will remain at home and log in remotely for their classes as per their timetable. There will be in-service for staff on Wednesday 30th September with classes for all students ending at 1.00pm.

The AGM of the Parents' Association will take place on-line Monday 5th October at 8.00pm and log-in details will be posted closer to that date.

I have attached protocols that have been reinforced with students at assemblies last week and ask that you might discuss with them your daughter(s).

Yours sincerely

Deirdre Gogarty
Principal

Protocols reinforced in year group Assemblies.

Parents are asked to discuss the following with their daughters:

- Masks:** Students must wear masks while in school. Students must come to school with their own masks which should be worn correctly at all times.
- Mask breaks:** students may remove masks when eating at break times but must remain seated. Students may remove masks when going on walks but while maintaining social distance.. Consideration should be shown to other pedestrians.
- Distance:** Students should observe the 1m distance between students in class and while on the corridor. Show respect at all times to other members of the school community; we have students and staff in the high risk category as well as those with family members in the very high risk category.
- Wipes:** students should bring disposable wipes with them to school so that desk and chair can be wiped before use.
- Hygiene:** Wash hand regularly and otherwise use sanitisers which are widely available throughout the school. Nails must be kept short and long hair tied back.
- Books/bags:** As lockers are no longer available and students have been encouraged to walk to school, please keep the weight of school bags to a minimum. Many students have downloaded books to their devices and laptops are available in the hall.
- One-way system:** Please observe the one way system which has been introduced to keep congestion points to a minimum. Students should walk on the left and try to observe social distancing.
- Live-streaming:** Currently live-streaming of classes is only available to students who are directed to the Assembly Hall. Teachers do post notes and worksheets to team files. This is currently under review.
- Lates:** Students who arrive late to class should report to the office and then go to class.
- Early pass:** Students leaving early for appointments etc, should report to the office.
- Illness:** Students should not come to school if ill and should contact the GP, if experiencing any of the 5 COVID-19 symptoms
If a student becomes ill in school, they should present to the office. Under no circumstances should a student contact home directly; all contact should be through the office.
- Limiting social contacts:**
Students are required to follow all public health advice and guidelines while out of schools so that the school can remain open safely and sustainably.

Thank you for your continuing support.