



3rd March 2021

### Year 12: Return to School 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Following an extensive period of remote Teaching and Learning, during which pupils and staff have demonstrated a high level of commitment to engage and enable progression, we are delighted to see the return to school of staff and pupils in Years 12-14 on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021.

This opportunity for face-to-face interaction is a most welcome step forward in terms of curriculum delivery and wellbeing. We are mindful that many pupils have been bereaved or impacted by illness within the family. We are asked to keep all in our prayers and we will continue to nurture pupils on their return.

It is important that pupils are supported and allowed time to re-connect and familiarise themselves with school routine again. We wish to manage the spread of work over the coming weeks and strive for a balance between Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

#### Revision of Assessment Dates

Following consultation with staff and students, and a review of correspondence from the Department of Education, return to school arrangements for Year 12 are outlined below.

Previously scheduled and postponed Assessment 2, will now be accommodated 2 days prior to Easter holidays and completed on return after the Easter break.

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021- Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Year 12: All pupils in class and follow normal timetable.
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2021- Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Assessment 2: Pupils attend school for scheduled assessments.
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021*	Easter Liturgy TBC
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Assessment 2 continued: Pupils attend school for scheduled assessments.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Year 12: All pupils in class and follow normal timetable.

We will ensure pupils are not overwhelmed by an extensive assessment content, we will support them in their preparation and remain confident in the knowledge that each assignment / assessment is one part of a “breadth of evidence.”

- The content of these assessments will be limited and not based on all work covered this year.
- Timetables will be posted on Year Group Teams.

- Pupils will be provided with clear guidance and direction on revision material via Subject / Class Teams.
- 2 off-screen days will be facilitated on **18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021** to allow pupils to prepare for the return to school and the arrangements outlined.

Over the coming weeks, pupils will experience a combination of curriculum delivery and assignments and have the opportunity to demonstrate progression towards their current level of attainment.

Note key points below issued by the Department of Education: A Guide for Parents and Students: 03.02.21.

*“Schools and colleges will make **evidence-based decisions** about the grade they recommend their students be issued. Wherever possible, a **breadth of evidence will inform a teacher’s assessment of their students’ grades**. This may include the student’s performance in any non-examination assessments (practical examinations, controlled assessment or coursework); other class tests and mock examinations, or any other work completed (for example practice examination questions, or extended essays).”*

*“Students will have opportunities to provide evidence of progress until submissions of Centre Determined Grades are made to CCEA in late May 2021.”*

***CCEA Assessment Resource:** “The Assessment Resource is not an external examination. It will be marked by a student’s class teacher and, if used, may be only one piece of a range of evidence used to inform and support the teachers’ overall assessment. It is not high stakes like an external exam and will be used alongside a range of other evidence.”*

When pupils and staff return, we remain fully committed to ensuring that the Health and Safety of all is paramount. Pupils will be asked to adhere strictly to their entry / exit guidelines and zones, to wear masks, unless exempt, to maintain social distancing and to observe good hand hygiene practices.

I wish to re-iterate my acknowledgement of the efforts of staff and pupils and my appreciation to Parents and Guardians for your ongoing support.

Stay safe, stay well.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Susan Cullinan  
Principal