

19/8/21

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is hard to believe that the end of August is fast approaching and with it the beginning of a new academic year. We hope that your son/daughter had a relaxing break and are returning to school refreshed and renewed. We are in the process of getting the school ready for reopening and are looking forward to the return of students

As you are aware the Department issued, '**COVID 19 Response Plan for the Safe and Sustainable Operation of Post Primary Schools**'. The message being communicated is that we are returning to school with exactly the same protocols and procedures in place as last year and there is little or no change to the teaching and learning environment.

The department is providing CO₂ monitors and we will have one in every classroom. This means windows and doors will not have to be left open at all times and this should make the teaching/learning environment a little more comfortable. Therefore, students will not have to wear their jacket in the school building or in the classroom.

Last year was a particularly challenging year, however with full cooperation from everyone we were able to keep the school open and had no cases. We were also a little more relaxed regarding the uniform rules and mobile phone rules. It is now time to start returning the school to normal in so far as possible and **uniform and mobile phone rules will again be strictly enforced. Please familiarise yourself with these as it is important to have a good start to the new academic year.** Students were also allowed to park their cars in the school last year. I regret that we will not permit students to park in the school this year due to lack of space. The old prefabs are being replaced by permanent classrooms and I hope this work will start shortly.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new first years to Scoil Mhuire. They will start with us on Friday. It is an exciting time moving from primary to post primary and I hope you enjoy your time in our school.

The opening schedule is as follows;

Friday 27 th August	1 st years
Monday 30 th August	1 st years/ 6 th Years
Tuesday 31 st August	2 nd , 5 th and 6 th
Wednesday 1 st September	1 st , 3 rd and 5 th
Thursday 2 nd September	2 nd , TY, 6 th
Friday 3 rd September	All students

Kind regards

Padraig Nolan