

Dundalk Grammar School

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DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

14th August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I trust you are all keeping well. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of our outline plans for the return to school. These plans may change if further advice is received from the Government and HSE.

As you can imagine there has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes to prepare for a return to school. Here is a brief overview of key dates and our preparation work:

Return to school dates:

Monday 31 st August	6 th Yr <u>Prefects</u> to return on the afternoon of Monday 31 st August
Tuesday 1 st Sept	New incoming 1 st Yrs will attend for the morning only
Wednesday 2 nd Sept	New 1 st Yrs and 6 th Yrs to attend for the full day (9am start)
Thursday 3 rd Sept	5 th Yrs to attend for the full day (9am, and all Yrs referred to above)
Thursday 3 rd Sept	3 rd Yrs to attend from 11.30am (and all Yrs above from 9am)
Friday 4 th Sept	2 nd Yrs to attend for the full day (9am, and all Yrs referred to above)
Monday 7 th Sept	TY to attend for the full day (9am, and all Yrs referred to above)

Social Distancing/hygiene

Our intention is to operate a pod system whereby the number of students in a class will be matched to the classroom/area size to allow for social distancing. Teachers will move from class to class to reduce the student footfall around the school and reduce interaction. It is very likely when indoors, that everyone, including students, will wear their own cloth face mask. Breaks and lunches will be staggered, and it is hoped to keep year groups together in designated areas. There will be no lockers available for day students to reduce the gathering of students in these areas. There will be no assembly. Several hygiene stations have been placed around the school and these will be checked regularly. Students are expected to observe good practices of hand washing/cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing etc. Cleaning around the school will be ongoing and all students will receive a full Covid-19 safety briefing from our Covid-19 Compliance Officer.

For a successful return to school this will require a collaborative approach and it would be appreciated if you could positively explain this to your children as the success of the return to school lies with us all.

Boarding

Boarding students will return on the day they are due to commence school; boarding parents will be invited to a Zoom meeting on Friday 21st August. Further details and a letter specific to boarding will be on the school website www.dgs.ie next week and will probably issue via email too. Please ensure that Audrey admin@dgs.ie has your correct details.

Whole School

It is planned to hold a series of Zoom meetings (these meetings will commence 24th August) with the parents from all year groups relating to the school reopening. A letter will be on the school website in due course and will probably issue via email at the end of next week. Again, if in doubt, please email admin@dgs.ie to confirm your details.

Junior School

Ms Lait will be contacting the parents of the Junior School

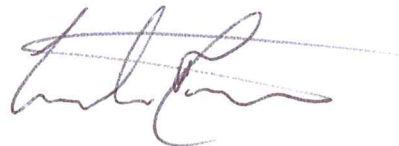
Ultimately the safety and well-being of our students and staff is of our utmost concern and we will do everything possible to achieve our safe return to school. Having said all that, we would hope that school will be a positive experience this academic year.

In the meantime, keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Graham
Headmaster



Enda Murphy
Deputy Principal
