



Covid-19 & The ISK

Please put Microphones on Mute
Any questions can be submitted
on the chat function

General

- Welcome
- This presentation is about Covid but some general points on 1st Year
- Can be daunting for students and parents but fundamentally – trust us, we do it every year. Also Vital that you contact us if your child has a problem – we can help you only if we know there is a problem
- There are systems in place to look after your child
- Each class has a class tutor and the Year Heads for First Years are Ms. Randles and Mr.Buckley.
- The class tutors will introduce themselves on the First Day to the students
- Students will meet their Tutors several days a week at 8.55am
- Any student that needs help can ask their CT, Y/H, GC,DP or any other teacher

Covid 19

- Unfortunately all of us are well used to Covid 19 and the restrictions that it places on all our lives
- There may be some differences between how Primary School and Post Primary school operates in Covid times, hence this Zoom meeting

Primary Aim

- School to remain **Covid-19 free** – same as Primary
- Families, all staff & students must work together to reduce the risk and create a **safe environment**
- In a school there is always a balance between necessary changes & the need to continue with Education

Underlying Principles

- **The 3 underlying principals of Covid Changes are**
 1. **Maximise Space** – Class-rooms , Lockers, Furniture,
 2. **Minimise Movement** – Students in same classrooms as much as possible, one-way system
 3. **Physical Distancing**

Symptoms of Covid-19

- High Temperature
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath or Breathing Difficulties
- Loss of smell, of taste or distortion of taste
- If a student goes home with Symptoms of Covid-19 or if they are absent with such symptoms we would ask that they provide proof from a medical practitioner before they come back to school that he/she does not have Covid-19

When to keep your child at home?

- *Do not send your child to school if any of the following is true. Your child has:*
 - a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
 - any other common symptoms of coronavirus such as a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath
 - been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus
 - been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus

When is it okay to send your child to school?

- *It's usually okay to send your child to school if they:*
 - only have nasal symptoms, such as a runny nose or a sneeze
 - do not have a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more (as long as their temperature has not been lowered by taking any form of paracetamol or ibuprofen)
 - do not have a cough
 - have not been in close contact with anyone who has coronavirus
 - do not live with anyone who is unwell and may have coronavirus
 - have been told by a GP that their illness is caused by something else, that is not coronavirus. Your GP will tell you when they can return to school
 - have got a negative ('not detected') coronavirus test result

Dealing with a suspected of Covid-19

- The student will be brought to an **isolation room**
- The parents/guardians of the student will be contacted immediately
- Students will be collected & brought home
- The relevant areas will be cleaned as soon as is practicable
- The HSE will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of Covid-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed at all times.

Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19

- Impact of a suspected case:
- Are all families of children in the class informed if there is a suspected case?
- Are all families of children to include siblings informed- including neighbouring schools?
- Answer: The **HSE** will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed and staff and pupil confidentiality is essential at all times.

Face Coverings

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- Face coverings are a requirement with the exceptions outlined below.
- Anywhere a student can't maintain 2 metre distance he/she **must** wear a face covering
- Cloth face coverings **should not** be worn by any of the following groups:
 - **Any person with difficulty breathing**
 - **Any person who is unconscious or incapacitated**
 - **Any person who is unable to remove the face-covering without assistance**
 - **Any person who has special needs and who may feel upset or very uncomfortable wearing the face covering, for example persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental health conditions, sensory concerns or tactile sensitivity.**
- Teachers will also wear face coverings under same conditions.

Face Coverings

- All staff and students wearing face coverings, will be reminded to not touch the face covering and to wash or sanitise their hands (using hand sanitiser) before putting on and after taking off the face covering
- Students should bring **plain** face masks to school (preferably 2, to change during the day, it is recommended to bring 2 zip lock bags for storage of clean/used mask).

Whole School Changes

- Classrooms are set out at 1 metre distance with 2 metre teacher distance
- In some cases this will not be possible due to class size
- **Covid Classrooms** – some parents may be familiar with the school - 1 Well, 2 Gym, 1, Library
- Rooms 121,122 & 123 Partitioned into two rooms
- Rooms 213 & 214 partitioned into 1 classroom
- Face Coverings (excluding exceptions) to be worn in hallways

Whole School Changes

- **No Lockers** – teachers are very aware of heavy books and will mitigate this where possible. It is important that students are organised re timetable and bring in the books they need only.
- First Year rooms have desks with shelves this year – not an ideal solution but hopefully it will help.
- Small Family Suitcase with wheels or wheelie bag where possible for storage would be helpful

Whole School Changes

- **Canteen – open from 02/09/21**
- Safer ordering system is being introduced.
- 1st Years Remain in School During Lunch time
- Parents/guardians dropping in forgotten lunches, books etc. must abide by Covid-19 Regulations when in the school and leave student items with student name on item at desk in front of office. Student will be asked to come and collect item.

Whole School Changes

- **Hygiene –**
- On Site cleaner through out the day
- In addition whole school will be cleaned once a day
- Hand Sanitisers Placed throughout the school – including all classrooms, entrance/exit points, outside toilets etc.
- Visual (signage) & Verbal reminders on Hand Hygiene & Respiratory
- Limits on individuals in bathrooms
- Students must bring anti-bacterial wipes and wipe down their desk/area when leaving the classroom.

Whole School Changes

- **Uniforms** – as normal
- **PE** Uniforms on PE days, tracksuit bottom and top for boys with PE uniform underneath. Girls to wear PE uniform
- 1st Years to wear PE Uniform on first day
- **Ventilation** – windows & doors opened recommended. Department say they will provide Air Monitors by mid September
- Jackets can be worn when the weather is cold
- Layered clothing if required
- Assigned Seating in classes (students from the same base classes stay together as much as possible)
- Do not share equipment e.g. pens, rulers etc.

Whole School Changes

- **One-way system** to avoid contraflow where possible
- Ground Floor – East to West
- 1st Floor – West to East
- 4 Entrances/exits – students use relevant entrance/exit in the mornings, breaks, lunchtimes and at the end of the day

Whole School Changes

- Junior School begins at 8.50 and Senior School at 8.55
- **Staggered Morning Break**
- Junior School at 10.20 & Senior School at 11am (all students will get a 10 minute break)
- **Lunchtime** – Senior Cycle classes finish at 12.25pm & Junior Cycle Classes finish at 12.30pm (except on Wed). All classes return for 1.20pm class.
- **Staggered Leaving.** 3.55pm for Junior School (1.05pm on Wed) & 4pm for Senior School (1.10pm on Wed)

Access to School

- Arrangement is required for necessary visitors such as parents
- Visits for **essential purposes only** – try to avoid forgotten lunchbox, textbook etc.
- Physical Distancing will be required
- A **contact log** will be placed in the main entrance of the school
- The school office has a perspex screen

Individual Year Changes

1st Years

- First Day Back – Friday 27th August
- School Day Begins at 8.50 am
- Students Assemble Outside on the front hockey pitch if the weather is dry
- Appropriate physical distancing will apply on the hockey pitch
- PE Uniform on the first day & boys to wear track suit bottom and top
- Organization more important than ever for 1st Years

1st Years

- First Day
- Weather Not Good
- 1st Years Will be directed to their class rooms -121,122,The Well & 213
- Students will receive an address which will include guidelines on precautions from Covid-19

First Day for First Years

- Students will follow a reduced “First Day” timetable on their first day
- Students will not have to bring in text books on the first day
- Students will be broken up for a “school tour”
- Each Class group will receive training on Microsoft Teams (bring your phone to school on Day 1 and please download the following Apps – Teams, Outlook and Onenote)
- One Hour at the end of the day will be for physical activity if weather is good & if weather is bad, students will be divided in to groups for internal activities

First Year Changes

- First Years Must Bring Their Lunch Every Day. Canteen will not open until Thursday 02/09/21
- Some Extra / Co Curricular Events Provisionally still possible e.g. Study Skills, Trip to Seefin & Internet/Phone Safety
- Mobile phones are to be used by students ONLY under the direction of their teachers

Covid Response Plan

- Covid Response Plan & Policy Statement are available on www.isk.ie

Questions

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