

Bulletin No. 3

18/09/2020

At the end of our first school week, we are really pleased to report that our Covid-19 Response Plan is working well. We are delighted with the way all of our students have adapted to the new procedures and are taking everything in their stride. Our new staggered breaks ensure that all students have adequate space to sit and enjoy their lunch. The fine weather this week has really helped as our students went outside, took off their masks and socialised with their friends. All students are now in the routine of sanitising their hands, following our one-way system, sitting in designated areas etc.

There are a few things we need to work on next week and we would really appreciate if you could discuss these with your son/daughter. At break times it is important that our students socialise, but it is also important that they maintain physical distancing while doing so. When students are waiting for the school gates to open in the morning, we ask that they do not congregate. We are allowing our First Year & Second Year students to finish school five minutes before everyone else. This will reduce congestion at the end of the school day.

We are aware that students are currently without lockers. We plan to phase-in the use of lockers in the coming weeks (starting with 6th years). Students do not need to bring physical textbooks to school, they can use eBooks instead. Students do not need to bring hardbacks to school. Hardbacks will be used at home to keep concise revision notes etc. Many schools are not allowing students access to lockers this year due to physical distancing concerns. We will monitor the use of lockers carefully and if physical distancing is an issue, we may need to close them for the year.

General Reminders:

- If your son/daughter exhibits any Covid-19 symptoms, please keep them at home and contact your GP. Symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to symptoms of cold or flu. The most common symptoms are:
 - fever
 - cough
 - shortness of breath
 - loss of sense of smell or taste.
- Our canteen operator accepts cash and card. Food can be pre-ordered before school and collected at break time.
- If your contact details have changed in recent months please ring our office 053 9484035 to inform us.

- Vsware is now being used to monitor student's attendance, academic performance and behaviour. We will trial the behaviour feature over the next few weeks and it will then be made available to parents.
- If you cannot access vsware please email maryrooney@wwetb.ie for assistance.

Please click on the links below to familiarise yourself with two important documents in relation to Health & Safety and face coverings.

1. Health & Safety Control of Covid-19 Policy for students

https://creaghcollege.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Health-and-Safety-Control-of-Covid-19-policy-for-students_Creagh-College.pdf

2. Face Coverings Guidance for Post-Primary Students

<https://creaghcollege.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Face-Coverings-Guidance-Post-Primary.pdf>

Finally, I would like to commend our new 1st year students for the way they have settled into Creagh College. They are busy getting to know each other and their teachers. Thank you to our 6th year Meitheal Leaders, Teachers, Class Tutors, Guidance Counsellors and Year Head who have supported our 1st Years all week and I know they will continue to help them throughout the year. Our 1st Years have worked so well this week (both in school and at home) and they certainly deserve a big treat over the weekend to celebrate.

Thank you for your continued support.