



**Creagh  
College**

Coláiste na Craobhai Guaire

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Learning for life

26/11/2021

**Staff/Parent/Student Briefing Re: contingency measures: week commencing Nov 29th**

To all the members of our school community,

Thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding regarding the contingency plan we made last week in light of anticipated teacher supply issues. Thankfully, we did not need to activate the plan this week. However, the ongoing difficulties regarding teacher supply and the current levels of Covid-19 in our community remain, and therefore we will have a similar set of contingencies for next week.

The contingency schedule for leaving year groups at home **if necessary** is somewhat different for next week (week beginning Mon Nov 29<sup>th</sup>). This is because we are anxious to ensure as few students as possible miss their Christmas assessments, which we believe are especially important for students in senior cycle who have not had the opportunity to sit the Junior Cert exam.

We are also concerned that a small number of students presented to school this week while displaying some of the signs of Covid-19 and therefore had to be sent home again. While school and exams are important, it is vital that we all observe the relevant public health guidelines; most importantly, students should not come to school if they have symptoms of covid-19, regardless of vaccination status.

We have summarised the key points to be observed in relation to these requirements in the graphic below. Please keep yourself up-to-date with the current HSE guidelines as they are subject to ongoing changes at the moment.

We have taken measures to improve the heating situation and students should notice a marked difference from now on with regard to rooms being warm enough despite having windows open. It should not be necessary for students to wear outdoor coats while in class.

I urge all of you to continue to fully observe and comply with all the current protocols, regulations and restrictions. Each small thing each one of us does to minimise the risk of the virus spreading will collectively keep all of us safe and well. Most importantly, it is vital that students/staff who have symptoms, who are close contacts of household cases, or who themselves have positive test results (either antigen or PCR) must not attend school. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Glynn, Principal

CONTINGENCY MEASURES: Week of Nov 29th

Only to be implemented if necessary: to be confirmed by 8pm the previous evening

Year groups may be required to stay at home as per this schedule

- Mon Nov 29<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_5<sup>th</sup> years and TY (not including LCA1 students)
- Tues Nov 30<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_6<sup>th</sup> years (not including LCA2 students)
- Wed Dec 1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_3<sup>rd</sup> years
- Thurs Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_2<sup>nd</sup> years
- Fri Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_1<sup>st</sup> Years

## If you have any COVID-19 symptoms

- Self-isolate (stay in your room AT HOME)
- Book a PCR test (**antigen tests insufficient**)

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- [fever \(high temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above\)](#) - including having chills
- dry cough
- fatigue (tiredness)

Less common symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- [loss or change to your sense of smell or taste](#) – this could mean they're completely gone or just different to normal
- nasal congestion (runny or blocked nose)
- conjunctivitis (also known as red eyes)
- sore throat
- headache
- muscle or joint pain (aches and pains)
- different types of skin rash
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhoea
- chills or dizziness (Extract from [HSE](#) website, 25/11/'21)

If you are a close contact and have no COVID 19 symptoms:

| <u>Fully</u>  | <u>vaccinated</u>   | <u>Not fully vaccinated</u>  |
|---|---|--|
| <p>If you are a <b>household close contact</b>:</p> <p>A household close contact is someone who was in close contact with a person who tested positive in a residential setting.</p> <p>Restrict your movements (stay at home) until you have 3 negative antigen tests in 5 days.</p> | <p>If you are <b>not a household close contact</b>:</p> <p>Do antigen tests until 3 negative antigen tests in 5 days. No need to restrict movements (stay at home).</p> | <p>Restrict your movements (stay at home) for 14 days.</p> <p>Book a PCR test.</p> |