



# Loreto Secondary School Clonmel

Coleville Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Following on from our letter last week – we would like to provide some further information for you.

## School Uniform

We will be maintaining daily wear of the standard Loreto Clonmel uniform and Loreto Clonmel PE uniform and parents/guardians and students may proceed with planning on this basis.

## Code of Behaviour

We always have very high standards of behaviour in our school and we know that all students will be aware of their personal responsibility with regard to COVID-19 and will support the school with new routines put in place to keep everyone safe. We are in the process of consulting with all stakeholders with an addition to our Code of Behaviour specifically relating to COVID-19 and we will make that available to all families as soon as we can.

## Protocols

It is possible that all parents/guardians may have to complete (and possibly maintain) *Return to School questionnaires/protocols*. Our collective objective is to establish and maintain a bubble of good health on the campus. This will mean, in the Covid-19 context, that any member of the school community (staff or student), **who is ill or is displaying possible symptoms of Covid-19 must remain off the school campus, seek a medical diagnosis and remain off campus until their situation has been clarified by a recognised medical practitioner.**

Parents/guardians will be required to confirm that in the case of their child developing potential Covid-19 symptoms while on campus they will be able to collect their child within a **one-hour period** from the time of notification.

**If you have travelled outside Ireland, you must have completed 14 days of self-isolation and/or quarantine prior to your returning to the Loreto campus. Please ensure you are aware of this and fulfil this requirement.**

## High Risk or Very High Risk Category Students

The HSE has information about these two categories which you can read about [here](#). We will work with any parents/guardians of students who are identified as at High Risk or Very High Risk to ensure appropriate protocols are put in place prior to the start of the school year. However we ask that you contact [reception@loretoclonmel.ie](mailto:reception@loretoclonmel.ie) as soon as possible, but by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020 **at the latest**, to let us know so that we can work with you to make the necessary plans.

## Hand Sanitisation / Visors / Masks

Hand sanitising units are being installed widely across the campus. In addition to this each student is expected to bring their own hand sanitiser and other supplies to school each day and to have these in their possession at all times throughout the day. *See page 4 for what is expected to be in each student's personal Zip-Mesh Bag.*

All options are currently being explored including the need to wear masks and/or visors. As information is updated from the HSE and the Department of Education we will update you. In the short term may we suggest that you put plans in place to have masks and visors available should they be required for students.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities and Afternoon Study**

Our priority for at least the first two weeks is that we concentrate on getting appropriate routines in place for teaching and learning safely in the context of COVID-19. So, **the earliest** we will be commencing Extra-Curricular Activities and Afternoon Study is the week commencing Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

If we are in a position to provide Afternoon Study, we will be splitting the year into smaller sessions (for example 6 weeks) and charging per session. However, please note that we are currently working through our supervision procedures to confirm the maximum numbers which can be provided for within each study setting. **It may be the case** we will need to prioritise applications (e.g. from 6<sup>th</sup> Years, 5<sup>th</sup> Years and 3<sup>rd</sup> years) up to the maximum numbers which we can accommodate under social distancing guidelines.

### **Further Questions**

Should you have questions, we want to assure you that others do too! So please do send your queries to [reception@loretoclonmel.ie](mailto:reception@loretoclonmel.ie) and we will do our best to answer it. If a question comes in a few times we will include the answer in our next letter to parents/guardians.

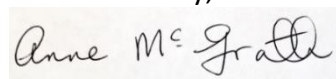
We are very much looking forward to meeting all our students again. We are working behind the scenes throughout this summer to ensure that the campus is ready for all Loreto Clonmel community members!

We hope that you enjoy August knowing that here in Loreto we are making the appropriate plans to welcome students and staff back safely together very soon.

We will be in touch with you again in the next few weeks if we have further updates – otherwise it will be towards the end of August 2020.

Please see *page 3* for our summer prayer for every member of the Loreto School Community.

Yours faithfully,



Anne Mc Grath,  
Principal



Sarah Rice,  
Deputy Principal



**Our summer holiday prayer:**

May we make our homes places of relaxation,  
joy, love, peace and safety.

May we be generous and considerate,  
not thinking only about ourselves,  
but helping others enjoy the blessings of the summertime.

Grant us refreshment of mind and body.

**HSE Advice**

Lots of additional advice is available at this [link](#)

## Items for your Zip-Mesh Bag

Please note following consultation we want to ask you not to use a zip lock bag as it will tear, so please bring these items in a **sturdy ZIP-MESH BAG**.

All students are expected to have a zip-mesh bag (*clearly labelled with student's name*) with the following items which you check and refresh on a Friday night in readiness for Monday morning:

➤ **Hand sanitiser**

➤ **Face cloth** (to use as hand towel)

➤ **Headphones**

*(needed if using devices with sound which may be the case if tuning into a teacher from a separate classroom – if possible, please don't bring large headphones, bring small headphones e.g. mobile phone ones)*

➤ **Face Mask**

*It is not compulsory to wear these, but we highly recommend that students have one in school so that if they feel it necessary to wear one, that it is at hand.*

*There are lots of YouTube videos on how to make your own (one example is [here](#)) – if buying a face mask can we encourage you to buy one that you can wash at 60*

➤ **Pack of Antibacterial Wipes**

**Note:**

- **Clearly label all items with the student's name.**
- **For hygiene reasons students are not permitted to share these (or any other personal) items.**

