



Coláiste Chú Chulainn

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Success For All



Parents of all students

5th October 2020

A Chara

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to give you an update on how we are getting on so far in school. Students have been excellent in their return to school. We are proud of the fact that we were the first school to return all students to school this term. Your students are already ahead in their learning.

[Inspection Report](#)

We were asked by the Department of Education & Skills to help them build a new model of inspection for Safe Return to School 2020. The inspectorate stated that we are **EXEMPLARY** and rightly so. They commented on the loyalty and care of our students, the happy work environment and positive atmosphere. The inspection report is on our website for you to read.

[School bags and their weight – Solution](#)

We realise that as part of the new situation in returning to school, the school bags are heavy. We have decided on a solution:

Teachers now have an electronic version of the textbook on their computer. They can now show the text on the screen in class. This means that teachers will now advise your student to keep their book at home for use when doing homework. Books must be kept safe, as they need to be returned to school at the end of the year. Schoolbags will now contain notes, hardbacks and copies – **a significant reduction in weight**. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

[School Reports and communications - Solution](#)

We cannot host parent teacher meetings in school. Therefore, we will send a school report to you at Halloween, Christmas, March and summer. Four reports will keep you up to date on their progress. We enclose our policy on how we communicate with each other. **The first step is to record notes in the school journal**. It must be signed each week. We are limited in how we can make phone calls and how many appointments we can take. So good communication in the journal is crucial.

[School Email Systems](#)

All students have their school email accounts and log in details. This means that if we enter into a new isolation period, lessons will continue on 365 Teams. Encourage your student to be familiar with this platform. We enclose a copy of our Acceptable Usage Policy regarding the use of online resources etc. **Remember mobile phones are NOT ALLOWED at any time on the school premises**.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn

Principal: Thomás Sharkey. Deputy Principals: Richard Melaniphy. Niamh O'Neill

Roll Number 76195U

Marshes Lower, Dundalk, Co. Louth

Tel: (042) 935 4553 email: ColaisteCC@lmetb.ie website: <https://www.colaistecc.ie/>



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Attendance and Punctuality

Students have been great at being on time for school and maintaining excellent attendance. We keep very careful records of their attendance to allow us to manage contact tracing. This means that every student **MUST BE IN SCHOOL BEFORE 8.50 AM**. We ask that you always ensure this. If your student is absent on a day, you should record the explanation in the student journal for us to have on record. We will detail attendance records in our quarterly reports to you.

Uniform and PE

Students are proud of their uniform and are wearing it well. This year, when they have PE they wear their school PE uniform to school for the day. This means we do not have to use the dressing rooms and risk close contact. We need you to ensure the students have a **PROPER PE UNIFORM**. This is navy bottoms, a white sports t-shirt and a school sports jacket / half zip. **Remember a PE day is still a uniform day and we want students representing us smartly on their way to and from school.**

Canteen and Snacks

Remember it is best for students to have a canteen card. **This reduces the handling of cash.** It also reduces the risk of losing money and helps you track the student's spending.

We provide the 10.50am food snack free of charge. It is a healthy snack of fruit, sandwich, scone and pancake. Please make sure your student does not take unhealthy food to school. Young people are often tempted to buy high fat and high sugar foods on the way to school. This is discouraged.

Friday 23rd October Students Stay at Home While Staff Train

As our work continues in school, we as a staff continue to engage in training and professional development. There will be **no school for students on Friday 23rd October** as staff will be engaging in JCT training. This date ensures minimum disruption to the continuity of term and gives your family an extended Halloween break.

In anticipation of your full support.

Le Meas

Thomas Sharkey
Principal



Niamh O'Neill
Deputy Principal



Richard Melaniphy
Deputy Principal



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