

## Coláiste Pobail na Mainistreach

Bóthar na Mainistreach, An Pórt Mór, Port Láirge

Príomhpoide: Michelle Jefford  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Colm Rice  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Helen Ní Chonchubhair  
Leas-Phríomhoide: Laura Fitzpatrick

## Abbey Community College

Abbey Road, Ferrybank, Waterford

Principal: Michelle Jefford  
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24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

The Department of Education and Skills (DES) issued information Note SD 0003/2022 to all schools yesterday. The communication makes the following relevant points in relation to Covid measures in schools with effect from Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

- The Government has accepted the recommendations of NPHE to remove remaining restrictions relating to mask-wearing and physical distancing in schools.
- If members of staff or students wish to continue wearing face masks or coverings, they may do so on a personal basis.
- Continued use of good infection prevention and control measures such as hand washing, respiratory hygiene and ventilation as advised.
- The need to self-isolate if symptomatic (even if fully vaccinated/boosted) or if having a positive Covid test, will continue to be advised. Existing hygiene measures and pre-assigned seating will remain in place subject to further review.

**In relation to our school, I wish to advise you as follows:**

**As has been the case throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, the school will comply in full with Government decisions.**

Classrooms will be restored over the coming weeks to their pre-Covid configurations.

As arrangements are in place for an online 5<sup>th</sup> year parent-teacher meeting on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, this meeting will proceed with the online format from 16.15 to 18.45 as scheduled.

Information on the postponed 2<sup>nd</sup> year parent-teacher meeting will be available soon.

Re-scheduled Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Pre-Exams will take place on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. All information has been posted to 3<sup>rd</sup> year and 6<sup>th</sup> year *Year Group Teams*.

One of the key messages from the Department of Education and Skills to manage the risks of Covid 19, is to do everything practical to avoid the introduction of Covid 19 into the school. If infection is not introduced into the school, it cannot spread. **The requirement remains to stay at home if you have symptoms and follow public health advice.**

**Please be assured that we will support anyone who wishes to continue to wear masks and request that everyone is respectful of individual decisions around mask wearing.**

As always, I wish to thank you for your continued support in ensuring the safety of our whole school community.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Jefford  
Principal