

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Please see below a list of Frequently Asked Questions about our response to Covid19 in Clonturk Community College. If you have a question that is not answered below please click [HERE](#) and fill in the Microsoft Form. A member of our team will get back to your form submission as soon as possible. Students will receive an induction on all of the below information when they return to school. We will aim to set the tone for a positive year ahead when we inform our students of all the information below.

Q: What measures are in place to minimise the spread of Covid 19 in the school?

- Signage throughout the school reminding students to keep their distance and follow HSE guidelines to minimise the spread.
- ‘Keep Left’ system in place in all hallways.
- Year groups are segregated in different areas where possible. Students only leave these areas to travel to specialist class rooms.
- Staff and students will wear face coverings at all times.
- Management have written a Covid response plan and a Covid behaviour policy.

Q: What steps have been taken to allow for social distancing in Clonturk Community College?

We have done our utmost to ensure that social distancing will be maintained throughout the school day.

- Student desks are placed in a way that students will be minimum 1.1m from each other shoulder to shoulder in all classrooms.
- ‘Keep Left’ systems are in place in all hallways.
- Every second toilet cubicle and sink is blocked off.
- Queueing systems are in place outside all bathrooms and offices.

Q: Should my child wear a face covering?

Face Coverings are compulsory for all students at all times in Clonturk Community College. Students with certain medical conditions are exempt from this. Students must wear a face covering and not a visor. Students must bring their own face covering to school. Students can bring more than 1 face covering and change them throughout the day if they wish. Used face coverings should be stored away in a sealed Ziploc bag. Students can remove their face coverings when eating or outside at a distance of 2m from others.

Q: What should my child bring to school?

Children should bring the following to school every day.

- a face covering
- hand sanitiser
- tissues
- disinfectant wipes

Students should sanitise their hands throughout the day. Students should use their wipes to disinfect their desk and chair each morning and when they move classroom. Students should dispose of their used tissues and wipes in the sanitary bins provided in each class room only. All other rubbish must be taken home.

Q: What should my child do when they arrive at school in the morning?

On day 1 of school students should go to the front door of the main building. Students will be facilitated to queue safely in their class groups and shown how to get their class room. The school building will not be open before 8.15 am. Students should arrive at school and sanitise their hands. They should go straight to their desk in their classroom wipe it with their own disinfectant wipes and wait for their first class to begin.

Q: What should my child do if they need to move class room for any reason?

Students should adhere to the 'Keep Left' system when moving through the corridor. They should keep their distance from other students. They should arrive at their new classroom and go to their assigned seat. They should disinfect their chair and desk and dispose of the wipe.

Q: What are the procedures for bathroom breaks?

Should students need to go to the bathroom they should ask permission from the teacher, note it in their journal and show the teacher their journal as they leave the room. Students should wear a face covering when leaving the room. Students should go the toilets in the block that they are in and queue if necessary. Students should bring a pen with them and sign the sheet outside of the toilet they go to allow for contact tracing. They should sanitise their hands when they return to class.

Q: Will my child mix with other children in their year group outside of their base class?

Where at all possible students will stay in their base classroom. Should they need to move to a specialist room (eg science lab) they will adhere to the 'Keep Left' system that is in place to get to the room safely. When in the classroom they will be placed sitting closest to members of their own class to minimise exposure.

Q: Will my child mix with other children in other year groups outside of their base class?

The only time that year groups will mix is if they are travelling from one class to another. All year groups have been assigned specific entrance and exit points from each building. They will not stop or congregate but may pass each other in the corridor at times.

Q: Can my child go outside at break times?

Each year group has a designated outdoor space that can be used in fine weather. Students must maintain social distancing and adhere to HSE guidelines in these areas.

Q: When should I not send my child to school?

Children with a high fever, a cough, shortness of breath or a loss of their sense of smell or taste should not attend school. They should stay at home and their parent/ guardian should contact their GP to discuss if a test for Covid 19 is necessary.

Children with a blocked or runny nose, but no fever can attend school, but if they require paracetamol or ibuprofen for their symptoms, they must not attend school for 48 hours and GP assessment for testing is indicated.

Q: What will the school do in the case of a suspected case of Covid 19 during school hours?

A staff member will remove the student who has a suspected case of Covid 19 and proceed to escort them to one of our two isolation rooms. The staff member will contact school management. Management will contact the parent/ guardian of the child and request that they be collected immediately. Your child will be supervised and cared for at all times in this process. The parent/ guardian should collect their child and contact their GP to discuss if a test for Covid 19 is necessary.

Students who were in class with the student who presented with symptoms will be moved to another classroom to allow the previous classroom to be disinfected.

Q: When can my child return to school after a negative result from a Covid 19 test?

If a symptomatic child has a Covid-19 'not detected' result, the child should remain at home until he/she is clinically well enough to return to school, unless parents are specifically asked by HSE Public Health for their child to remain excluded because of other investigations e.g. if

the child is a known close contact of a now confirmed case. All diarrhoea symptoms need to have been resolved for 48 hours prior to return to school.

Q: When can my child return to school after a positive result from a Covid 19 test?

Confirmed cases will be contacted directly by the contact tracing centres and case information and contact identification will be initiated. Following on from a positive result your child will be informed how long they should isolate for. The case will be referred to the Medical Officer of Health within the regional Public Health Department, for onward Public Health Risk Assessment (PHRA) and management in this setting.

Q: If my child has siblings in the school and one of them presents with a suspected case of Covid 19 what happens?

Students will remain in class in the case of their sibling presenting with symptoms of Covid 19. The parents / legal guardian of the sick child should contact their GP as usual, to discuss clinical concerns. If it is determined by the GP that the child/pupil requires to be tested for Covid-19, any other household contacts should be removed from the school setting.

Q: Will I be notified if there is a confirmed case of Covid 19 in the school?

Parents/ Guardians, staff and students will not be notified if there is a confirmed case of Covid 19 in the school community. All confirmed cases will be contact traced accordingly by the HSE and therefore we will not issue any information in order to protect the private medical information of our staff and students. This is in accordance with guidelines set out in the 'School Pathway for Covid 19- the public health approach' which is available to download on www.hspc.ie.

Q: Will the school close if there is a confirmed case or outbreak of Covid 19.

The school cannot make a decision to close or exclude certain groups. This decision will be made by the Medical Officer of Health following a Public Health Risk Assessment. This information will inform the decisions regarding the need for full, or partial, closure of any educational establishment, or any control measures to be immediately implemented short of actual closure.

Q: Will teaching and learning continue as normal in Clonturk Community College?

Teachers will endeavour to uphold teaching and learning standards as per usual. Although there will be changes our team is passionate about education and will continue to be innovative in their teaching methodologies to ensure that your child receives a quality education in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Q: What should my child do if they have a concern about Covid 19 in the school?

Your child should speak with their tutor or any member of staff that they trust.

Q: What should I do if I have a concern about Covid 19 in the school?

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