

19th March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we return to face to face teaching on Monday 22 March 2021, I want to convey how we are all very much looking forward to welcoming Years 12–14 back to school. I want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication you as parents have given to support the remote learning process. As teachers, we have been very impressed with the high level of engagement and commitment to study our pupils have exhibited in these difficult circumstances.

I am confident that over the next weeks and months, as everyone returns to school, our educational environment will eventually settle, and brighter days are ahead. In readiness for Monday, please discuss the following arrangements which reflect specific advice received from the Department of Health and the Northern Ireland Executive.

Face Coverings: All pupils should wear a face covering (unless medically exempt). In class, line-up, the canteen queue, or any enclosed space where there is more than one person. If your child is medically exempt, you are required to fill in the online form before Monday 22 March. The form is available on <http://www.sperrincollege.com/c-19-consent.html>

Health and Safety: As previously communicated, all health and safety measures must be strictly adhered to by all pupils (An induction 'reminder' session will take place on Monday 22 March).

Pastoral Care: In order to address any pastoral care issues our pupils, will be engaging in a 'well-being' session, during periods 1 & 2 on Monday. For the first eight days, Year 12, 13 and 14 will receive complimentary tea/coffee and a snack at break time, in addition to a full 'Reconnect, Relax, Revive' session on Wednesday 24 March 2021. This session will allow time for all pupils to reconnect with their peers. A complimentary light snack will be available. If your child is experiencing significant anxiety regarding return or restart, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss a more bespoke or targeted support programme.

Transport: Normal Translink school services return on Monday 22 March 2021.

School Meals: Normal school meals service will return on Monday 22 March 2021.

School Uniform: Normal school uniform standards apply.

Covid-19 Testing - Lateral Flow Testing: You may be aware from the media that schools have been asked to engage in a testing programme to mitigate against the spread of Covid-19. I want to point out the following at this stage:

- Only Year 12 – 14 will be part of the programme (and all school staff)
- The testing programme is entirely **voluntary**, and you will be required to give your consent.
- The tests will be completed at home **not** school.
- The programme will **not** start until the school staff, the pupils and parents are given information, familiarisation training and written consent is sought.

I will therefore provide you with more information on Week beginning Monday 22 March 2021.

Centre Determined Grades: As per my previous correspondence, our main aim next week is to settle everyone back into the day to day routine of learning and this will be our focus in the first 8-day phase. Pupils and parents will be provided with more specific information on how Grades will be determined in each subject area as soon as possible.

Once again, I am really looking forward to seeing everyone next week.
Stay safe. Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,



B A Heron
Principal
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