

COVID-19 TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCEDURES

AT



Tarbert Comprehensive School

Covid 19 and the limitations it has brought to our movements and interactions, means that many of the regular teaching and learning procedures we have developed over the years will now be temporarily altered. The following is a summary of some of the key points for your child's return to school;

1. The use of technology to supplement teaching and learning will increase dramatically this year. Parents are advised that students may need access to a tablet or other device in addition to their normal school material to allow this to happen successfully. Computer classes from 1st Year to TY will be used to teach the necessary skills to your child so as to deliver and use this technology effectively.
2. Books & copies are still a requirement and will operate in the following manner

At Junior Cycle – (1st Year to 3rd Year) - Books can be left in school lockers (not brought home) – students need only have softback copies (no hardback) in their bags – books can be accessed from their lockers at certain times during the day. Please do not use hardback copies as we are conscious of the weight of the bags. At home students can access online books (eBooks) via their student email. New incoming 1st years will be shown how to do this on their induction day – September 1st 2020 (full day).

At Senior Cycle – (TY to LC2/LCA2) – students are asked to open and maintain subject folders at home – there is no need to bring a note or homework copy for each subject – instead students use a refill pad at school – and transfer the pages into their home folders each evening. Books must be brought into school daily.

3. Corrections of homework will continue to be done – however the method may be varied. Some corrections may now take longer so as to allow a few days lapse before copies and material is handled between correcting and returning. In addition the use of online assessment such as Kahoot or Google forms will increase. In some cases students will be asked to take photographs of their work and send it in as an email attachment. In more cases, teachers will provide a grade only on tests/homework - with oral feedback offered later to students. Naturally each teacher will set their own expectations on homework etc. to their students at the start of the year.

4. Group work will be limited unless socially distant. Visualisers will be used for demonstrations where possible. Students will be asked to wipe down their own equipment at the end of each practical class, supervised by the teacher. Visors to be worn in all classes. PPE will be used where social distance is not possible.
5. Each teacher is to be provided with a bottle of disinfectant and will wipe down their own desk at the end of each class. The teacher will also spray each student desk with disinfectant and students will then wipe down their own desk and chair at the end of the class.
6. VSware will be used to record students' behaviour and work. Parents are asked to view it regularly during the week. Any comments from teachers on VSware must be acknowledged as viewed by the parent via a note in the student journal.
7. PE students will arrive in their PE gear and change back into their uniform at the end (unless it's the last class of the day). The PE Polo shirt is compulsory. Black or blue tracksuits only to be worn - no shorts. Outdoor PE only. Changing rooms are off limits with hall used to socially distance changing. Males and females will be segregated for changing.
8. Visors will be worn by all staff and students at all times internally. Not required externally at breaks if socially distant. Visors will be provided to students – they are responsible for maintaining them.
9. Extra-curricular activities are limited – only socially distant forms of activities will be considered.
10. Detention will operate at a social distance

These are but some of the measures now being put in place so as to ensure our school remains free of Covid 19. Tarbert Comprehensive School will rise to this public health challenge, and the key themes of the Public Health Advice necessary to keep us all safe will permeate throughout the school community, with everyone:

- Applying common sense,
- Adopting a balanced approach,
- Doing everything practical to avoid the introduction of COVID-19 into the School,
- Being Aware of
 - I. what we can all do to protect ourselves and each other,
 - II. how to recognise and report the symptoms of COVID-19, and
 - III. the need to stay at home if we feel unwell, and
 - IV. Continuing to observe physical distancing, good hand hygiene and good respiratory etiquette

Yours sincerely

Richard Prendiville

PRINCIPAL

20/8/20
