



Agreed Report  
24<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### **Welcome Back**

The board would like to welcome all members of the Coláiste Iascaigh school community and wish them well for the year ahead.

### **Staff Changes**

As we begin another school year there have been a number of staff changes. Maeve McDermott has been appointed Deputy Principal. David Keegan is our new History and SEN teacher. Niamh Casey is our new CSPE, DML and Social Education teacher. We would like to welcome them to our staff and hope they enjoy their time with us in Colaiste Iascaigh.

### **Staff Development**

We would like to acknowledge and thank teachers for their continued engagement with CPD. This is vitally important to continue to improve teaching and learning.

### **School Development**

A lot of work has been completed during the school closure. Our school extension has been substantially completed and snag list work is on-going. We also have two state of the art prefabricated classrooms in place. Room 5 has been refurbished, insulated, plastered and ventilation and additional radiators added. Plumbing upgrades as well as electrical works were also completed. We added a concrete courtyard area to the rear of the building and to the side of the new extension. We have also completed minor works to the school as part of Covid-19 requirements. This included Perspex panels in the computer and DCG room and panels in the boys toilet block. An Emergency Works Application to replace the floor in the main school building has been made.

School has purchased a large number of new devices as well as projectors and other equipment to support the schools digital learning plan.

The board recognised and thanked the DES and MSLETB for the funding received for the school extension. They recognised the huge work by all involved in the project and the fantastic asset it is to our school. They also recognised the positive impact it will have on teaching and learning in Colaiste Iascaigh.



## **Covid-19**

A huge amount of effort was made during the summer to ensure everything was ready and in place for students and staff returning to school & work. A policy, response plan and amended risk assessment is in place. All structures and systems are working well and will be amended as needed. Additional S&S is in place to manage physical distancing at break times and enforce face coverings. Wellbeing has very much been at the core of re-opening. We have introduced breathing breaks and spent the first days back with students finding out how they were, how they were feeling and going through all of the new procedures with them. We phased students in gently to support staff on their return to work and to allow students to have the chance to settle in before the whole school returned. Our Lead Worker Representative is Ms Aideen O Shaughnessy who has been a huge support to management, teachers and students in making everyone feel safe and protected in the school environment. We have additional cleaning hours and an appointment has been made. The sense of community is something we should all be proud of. We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all involved in preparing the school for reopening.

## **Examination Results**

We would like to acknowledge the huge piece of work undertaken by the teaching staff, whose dedication and professionalism has been outstanding with the Leaving Certificate Predicted Grades.

## **September Attendance Report for BOM:**

### **Promoting Attendance**

There were concerns that an attendance league may encourage students to come to school even if they have symptoms of Covid therefore the focus has been placed on the importance of student time keeping, i.e. coming to school on time each day.

This is being launched on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Students will be encouraged to present to school and be in their base classroom on time each day. Students who sign in late will have 1 point deducted from their year group and students who sign in late with no note will have two points deducted from their group.

There will be a reward for the year group who win – eg. trip away if possible.

## **Student Council**

A comprehensive report was given from last years student council. The board acknowledges the hard work of the student council and thanked them for their contribution to the school.