

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**Guidance for Parents – helping us to minimise risk of infection from coronavirus**

The UK and Scottish Government and NHS Public Health provide infection control advice for all schools and families. St Aloysius' College has produced the following guidance for parents but it does not replace any national advice.

In order that all pupils and parents can help us to stay safe and infection free we outline the procedures being followed.

1. Additional advice on uniform wearing has been provided. Blazers and ties are optional (as they are more difficult to clean on a daily basis). If pupils have PE or games, they can wear their sports attire / kit for the whole day.
2. We aim to significantly reduce the number of items being transported between home and school. Where appropriate ipads will be used. Pupil lockers are currently NOT in use and so items cannot be locked away. Please wipe any hard surfaces with a damp detergent cloth if items are brought home.
3. Additional advice on pupil drop off and pick up times and procedures has been provided –we ask all parents to follow this specific advice and maintain 2m social distance from others so far as possible. Please DO NOT to congregate in groups or for informal chat with other parents at drop off and pick up times – much as we like to do this - it can cause delays and of course increases the risk of viral transmission between families. Please remember to sanitise your hands after touching anything in or around the College.
4. Please do not send pupils into school if they are feeling unwell or have even mild covid related symptoms. Likewise, if anyone in the household has symptoms that require close contacts to self-isolate. We appreciate the difficulties that this may cause – however, any pupil displaying symptoms will be assessed by our nurse and they are likely to be quarantined out of class and sent home. All families must follow the national isolation procedures if any member of a household has even mild symptoms. Please also help us by ensuring that any minor cuts or grazes in pupils are cleaned and covered with plasters prior to attending College.
5. We will follow Government guidance on any requirement for social distancing. Start times and break times will be staggered and additional supervision put in place to help minimise the congregation of groups of pupils. All pupils will be informed of these arrangements at start of the year and updated as necessary.
6. To help us to protect you and your family, we also strongly advise that;
  - a. Pupils should be reminded to wash their hands more often every day at home - especially after using the toilet and before eating. This will be reinforced in the College. Hand sanitiser will be available in every classroom.
  - b. Pupils should be reminded to practice cough and sneeze etiquette at home (catch sneezes with tissue and bin / cough into the elbow). This will be reinforced in the College. Tissues are available in every classroom.
  - c. Ideally, pupil clothing should be changed every day and washed in a hot wash cycle if possible to help kill any virus.
  - d. It is advised that pupils wash their hands on coming home after school and change out of school clothes.
7. Pupils with significant health risks or vulnerability will be offered individual risk assessments - and this may include the offer to wearing a face mask. This will be assessed on an individual basis and should not cause any other parent or pupil concerns.



8. The arrangements for first aid treatment and Medical services have been changed and resources significantly increased. Our two full time Nurses will be located in the Sports Hall Medical Centre. We also now have separate first aid and covid assessment areas. This has been risk assessed in detail to ensure that everyone who needs medical attention can receive it and the services offered will be safe and free from infection. Our nurses will have access to full clinical PPE (if required) and will work in ways to eliminate any risk of transmission. Parents can book a call to speak to the Nurse if at any point concerns arise about pupil health or wellbeing. We have over 60 staff first aiders.
9. We have frequent cleaning procedures in place for all common touch points and classrooms which will help to eliminate any potential surface contamination and the potential for touch transmission of the virus.
10. All College staff have completed mandatory training on corona virus and infection control before pupils return in the new term.
11. We have significantly increased domestic cleaning and instigated procedures for local surface disinfection of all touch points repeatedly throughout the day. Our domestic cleaning arrangements have been revamped and will become more localised. We aim to exceed the national guidance on the control of infection in schools.

**Sheila Grant, Director of Health and Safety**

**Matthew Bartlett, Head Master**