

Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 28th April 2020

School Closure

The school has been closed since the 13th March due to the Covid 19 lockdown.

Teaching continues remotely through a variety of means including online classes, email and the use of OneNote.

Summer Assessments

1st, 2nd and 5th years will not be doing any exams for the end of year but students will be given a mark based on the work they are doing for the teachers between now and the end of the academic year.

Teaching and Learning

The school continues to work toward improving teaching and learning. At the moment the principal and deputy principal are meeting remotely with different subject departments to assist them in developing units of learning for the New Junior Cycle.

Leaving Certificate PE

Leaving Certificate PE has been added to the subject options for transition years next year. The information night for third year parents had to be cancelled. All the information was sent out to them and the options were entered online.

Update on Leaving Certificate

At present, it seems that the examinations will begin on Wednesday the 29th July. In the meantime, all teachers are continuing to engage with students through OneNote, email and/or Microsoft Teams.

The Department of Education is suggesting the school will be open for two weeks in July for leaving certificate students.

Loan of laptops

Leaving certs and LCAs have been offered the opportunity to borrow laptops from the school.

Enrolment & Admissions Act

The Board approved the draft Admissions Policy in line with changes made in the Admissions Act. This policy has now been sent to the patron – Cork ETB for approval.

Whole school Guidance Plan

The guidance counsellors and management continue to work on the whole school guidance plan.

Wellbeing plan

The wellbeing group continues to meet during lockdown to prepare the wellbeing plan for the coming year.

Mental Health during Covid 19 lockdown

All parents have been sent details of different resources available to support them and their children during lockdown.

Hand Sanitiser

In preparation for reopening and/or the leaving certificate we have sourced a large quantity of hand sanitiser and dispensers. These dispensers have been placed at all the entrances and in the circulation areas.

School Meals Programme

The school receives funding from the Department of Social Protection for school meals. We have arranged with our supplier Fresh Today to provide fortnightly food boxes to all our families.

Planning Permission

As regards the extension of four classrooms Disability Access Cert and Fire Certificates have both been received. The documents are currently ready to go to tender for builders.

Year Planner

A draft year planner for next year was approved by Board of Management. It was agreed by all that it is quite possible that this plan will change significantly depending on Covid 19.

Rental of PE facilities

The Board is working with the Board of Management of Scoil Phadraig Naofa on the rental of their PE hall for use in the afternoons with PE lessons for senior cycle students.

Events Cancelled

The annual awards ceremony has been cancelled. It is hoped that the school can hold a graduation ceremony for the leaving certificate students after the leaving certificate is over to mark the end of their time in St. Brogan's College.

Report from Kinsale College

The college has been closed since the 13th March due to the Covid 19 lockdown.

The following is a summary of Covid-19 Supports being provided by Kinsale College of Further Education:

- College holds weekly virtual staff meeting using Microsoft Teams. This is attended by all teaching staff, personal assistants, and administration staff.
- Teachers are running virtual classes using Microsoft Teams and zoom. All students have Office 365 accounts and most have access to computers and internet connections
- Groups of students from some classes meet up for virtual coffee breaks using Microsoft Teams.
- The College has worked hard to alter the assessment methods for courses so that all students can complete their course and graduate.
- Despite the current situation, the college continues to promote the college and attract new students to take part in courses in September.
- Online free counselling available to all students currently.

Alternative Assessment

The college is implementing the CETB contingency policy concerning assessment as all end of year exams have been cancelled and replaced with alternative assessment methods which must be devised by each teacher and approved by QA at CETB.

Almost all alternative assessment methods have been assessed and students notified of the changes.

Autism training

In addition to upskilling on digital teaching, six staff members are completing a course on Autism over the next three weeks.

Events Cancelled

The annual awards ceremony, art exhibition, and end of year dramas shows have been cancelled. We hope to have graduation can go ahead in early September