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**Education and Families**

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Dear Parent/Carer

**Updates on the Senior Phase**

You will be aware from the announcement yesterday from the First Minister that a phased return for those pupils who have a practical element in their subject(s) is planned for week beginning Monday 22 February. Subjects which fall into this category in this school are:

Admin	Art	Computing	Dance	Drama	Design & Manufacture
Electronics	French	Gaelic	Games Design	German	Graphics
Hospitality	Metalwork	Music	Music Technology	Spanish	PE
Woodworking					

For all of these subjects, it is the practical element ONLY of the course which requires to be delivered in school. All other aspects of learning for the course will continue to be delivered remotely. In addition, Principal Teachers have indicated when access will be required in terms of subject timelines (for eg some subjects will not be dealing with the practical element of the course until April).

We are currently finalising our plans at school level to ensure that whatever we have in place does not exceed the maximum capacity of 8% of our school roll. There are a number of complexities which have to be factored in – social distancing; access to specialist rooms and equipment for smaller than normal class sizes; teacher rotas etc; as well as the external factor of school transport. It is likely that attendance for practical elements will involve whole day delivery, which obviously has a knock-on effect for the delivery of live content. As soon as arrangements are finalised, they will be shared with parents and pupils. All arrangements will also be posted on Year Group Teams for pupils to access.

An announcement was also made about the introduction of **Lateral Flow Testing for Senior Phase pupils** and staff. Full details of this can be found on the information sheet attached, which is also supplemented with a privacy notice and consent form. The programme is voluntary and is only for pupils who will be coming in to school to access their learning. This information will also be included in the HT blog at the end of this week, with links to the forms on the school website.

Yours sincerely

*Linda Park*

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 Head Teacher

