



25th June 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian and Student,

The last 13 weeks of your 2nd year education was a roller-coaster to say the least! The entire system rightly wrapped itself around the immediate issue of the Leaving Certificate students 2020 and tried to develop a system to meet their unique situation. As second years your curriculum went from being covered in a very normal way to having to be communicated by e-mail and the new reality of distant learning. In some cases CBAs were not completed nor were Assessment Tasks and now you are in your Junior Cycle year. Do not worry as we are planning on how to best support you on your return to this examination year. However, there are things you can take ownership of that will help on your return to school.

Message from Réaltóir Brennan

I can safely say that your 2ú bliain in CNI will remain in your memories for a lifetime. I hope that you have fond memories of this year apart from the Covid 19 cloud that has shadowed the second half of your year. Our trip to Carlingford marked the beginning of my journey with you all. From zip-lining to crystal maze, a great day was had by everyone. The freezing weather did not dampen anyone's spirits and Bród, Uaillmhian and Dearfachas were well displayed by all! We then had our "Tea Party" with those of you who achieved your Réalt Eolais in your Scrúdú na Nollag and it was so lovely to sit and have tea, cakes and chats with such a humble, modest and hard working group. I can't say that I will miss herding the crowds away from the locker area in between classes but I can say that I have enjoyed my short time as your Réaltóir this year. You are a very charismatic, lively, fun group with lots of personalities and I am very glad to have had the opportunity to have gotten to know you all. On behalf of myself and all of you, I would like to thank Iníon McCarrick, Iníon Ross, Máistir Reilly and in particular, Máistir Hopkins and Iníon Duffy, who we have worked closely with this year, for all the support, guidance and help. To Máistir Kirwan who has worked very hard with us especially since school closure and to each of your caomhnóir for all their

dedication - you are very lucky to have such caring, helpful and nice caomhnóirí. To your tuismitheoirí who have supported us all especially since the school closure, a big thank you! Wishing you all a safe and happy summer of 2020. Remember to follow the guidelines issued to us and we will hopefully see you all soon.

Iníon Brennan

Summer Opportunity

Take the summer to do some study. Perhaps pick one or two subjects that need most work and spend some time each week on topics already covered. At this point we hope for a full return to school and that is indeed what I, as a school leader, am planning for however we cannot rule out blended learning where some home-IT-supported learning might be required. We also expect the traditional Junior Cycle to go ahead for 2021 but again it is not beyond the realms of reason that a situation of school issued certificates could happen again. To support student and parents for all possibilities it is essential that we meet all 3rd year students and parents in early term 1, date to be confirmed.

Assessment

We are of course very aware of the absence of an end of year assessment for this year group. We are also acutely aware of the gaps in learning that have occurred during this period of distant learning. For this reason, we are already planning a formative assessment period for the beginning of the new year that will help us understand the progress of our daltaí during the end of the 2019/2020 academic year and direct us on how to support them in this important year.

Reports (Covid School Closure Period only)

The reports you received in the past week are not end of year reports in the traditional sense. Though they were titled *Summer Reports* they specifically focused on student engagement over the Covid school closure period. Your child's academic performance was already captured in the Tuarascail Samhain (Halloween Reports), Christmas exams, Caomhnóir meeting and the Cinn Lae.

In these exceptional times our teachers supported our daltaí and the work of the Department of Education in the transformation of both the Junior Cycle report and the Leaving Certificate system. Schools were given full responsibility for accrediting the achievement of third year students and also required to up-skill, administrate and deliver the brand new Calculated Grade system for our sixth

year daltaí. Consequentially to support the work for the state exams, we had to reform our reports for your child. This included:

- Providing a 'Covid-Period' report for your child, rather than end of year exams.
- Giving teachers the opportunity to use standard comments formulated by our Teaching and Learning Coiste. (Note: These were created to promote positive communication and tried to be as positive as possible about student engagement in this difficult time)
- Providing some guidance for students to complete as much of the assigned work over the summer, where possible.

We are very proud of the term based reports we provide each year with the normal customised detailed comments. Where a significant number of schools provide standard comments year round, CNI has always customised our reports with much greater detail. This will continue to be our standard in the coming academic year.

Student Direct Costs

As normal the 3rd year student costs are due and the Board of Management met last week to review the Student Direct Costs in light of Covid and I am delighted they have been able to streamline and reduce where possible (please see attached which also shows the cost for last year as a comparison). The final payment date for these costs is 19th August 2020 via Way2pay.

I wish you all well for the summer and I will update you via text and the website as we learn more about our return. Suffice to say at this point I look forward to seeing all the 3rd year 2020-21 on 27th August ready to take on the academic year ahead! The Calendar is also on the website for you to view @ https://www.colaistenahinse.ie/images/pdfs/2020-2021/Calendar_20202021.pdf.)

Le gach dea ghuí,



Iníon Mc Carrick

Student Direct Costs from Parents/Guardians for LMETB Schools for 2020/2021 (1st 2nd 3rd Years)

Subject to ratification by LMETB

All costs subject to annual review

LMETB School/College	2020-21	2019-20
Details	Estimated Cost 1 st yr- €218 2 nd yr-€218 3 rd yr-€218	Estimated Cost 1 st yr-€215 2 nd yr-€215 3 rd yr-€275
Book Rental (per year)	€100 (Increased by €20 due to large purchase of new Books)	€80
Exams (inc. Mock exams Eirquest)*	€15 (spreads cost of mocks over 3 years)	Was a separate larger charge in 3 rd year
Student Diary/Homework Journal	€8 (Reduced by €2)	€10
PPAI	€8	€8
Locker Rental/Replacement of Lock	NIL	NIL
Printing & Photocopying	€27 (Reduced by €13 due to new book purchase in JC)	€40
Text to Parents	NIL (Removed due to Way2pay text system giving free text)	€2
Co-curricular and Extra- curricular Activities Including Dearfachas and Restorative Practice	€60 (Same costs as covered under Multiple headings last year) (Reduction of €15)	€75 Multiple headings last year inc. Extra and Co-Curricular, Lá Dearfachas and Dearfachas/Restorative Practice
Optional Subject Materials	Depending on the option subject taken costs may apply	Depending on the option subject taken costs may apply

Total Contribution Collected for 2020/2021	€218 Total Cost over 3 Years €654 (reduction of €51)	Total cost over 3 years was €705 (2019-20)
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***Note: Reference to Mock exams refers to Mock examination papers only and not any external corrections that may occur**

***In second and third year students are required to have past examinations papers and this is not covered by above**

***In some subjects workbooks are required where students must write in answers. These are not covered by above**

Signed:	Principal
Date:	