



Dear Parent/Guardian/Student,

I hope you are keeping well.

Earlier this week we received confirmation from the Department of Education of the alleviation of Covid-19 mitigation measures that have been in place in schools since September 2020. The most significant changes are to remove remaining restrictions relating to mask-wearing and physical distancing in schools. We must remember however, that these restrictions have served us well as there has been no evidence of transmission of the virus in Ballyhaunis Community School since the onset of the pandemic. **For this reason, if members of staff or students wish to continue wearing face masks or coverings, they may do so.**

While this gradual return to normality is to be welcomed we must remember that the pandemic is not over and we must still exercise caution as we attend school daily. To ensure the safety of all members of the school community please remember to adhere to the following measures:

- Remain at home if you have symptoms;
- Maintain regular hand hygiene;
- Apply appropriate respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette; and
- Maintain environmental hygiene.

The last two years have been very challenging for all. We hope the coming weeks mark the beginning of a return to normality which we all truly long for.

We look forward to having our students and staff back in school on Monday. If we work together and follow all remaining guidelines fully I am confident that it will be a safe and rewarding return for all.

Regards,

*David McDonagh*

Principal