

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.

Avondale Community College Covid Response Plan 1st September 2020

In Avondale CC we continue to plan for a safe return to school. Please note Avondale Community College Risk Reduction Strategy is evolving and our Covid 19 School Response Plan will remain a live document which will respond to the ever-changing demands of this challenging situation.

The Covid 19 Response Plan aims to support the reopening of Avondale CC.

The following details actions taken by the school to support a safe reopening.

- The Covid 19 Response Plan aims to support the reopening of Avondale CC.
- A Covid 19 Response Team has been established in Avondale CC.
- (Principal, Deputy Principal, Staff Representatives)
- The school Covid 19 Response Plan has been drafted to support the reopening of Avondale CC.
- The PPE procurement has arrived and sanitizing stations are installed inside and outside every classroom, all entry/exits points and communal areas.
- Extensive signage was procured and is now in place to support reminders re: social distancing, handwashing and flow of students.
- A one-way system is in place on the ground floor, indicated by arrows on the ground. All other corridors will have two-way floor signage and wall signage. All students and staff will enter Avondale CC via the front doors and exit at break, lunch and the end of the day via the main doors including 2 additional exit points.
- Classrooms have been reconfigured to allow for 1 metre social distancing. This has required the removal and installation of furniture in some specialist classrooms. On occasion, students will be in rooms that allow for 2 metre social distancing. In these instances, face coverings will not be required.
- A “sit here” approach is being signed where necessary (canteen seats at the breakfast club), and students in class will have to sit in the same seat, in the same format for each teaching period of that subject. All classes will have a alphabetically seated plan in place.
- All fabric chairs have been removed from classrooms and the staffroom and replaced with wipe able furniture.



etb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Chill Dara agus Chill Mhantáin
Kildare and Wicklow
Education and Training Board

Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board

Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.

- The possibility of a staggered lunch & break time is being considered.
- All benches are removed from corridors and placed in foyer area only with stickers to indicate where students can sit.
- All staff received induction training to support a safe reopening of the school.
- The cleaning and sanitizing of the school commenced in early August and will be an ongoing feature of the school day. Cleaners will be onsite from 8am to 18.00 every day.
- Toilet facilities have been adjusted: hot water is available in every toilet, additional soap dispensers installed, all towelling removed and replaced with disposable towelling.
- Two isolation rooms have been identified and the protocols relating to these rooms will be communicated through student induction. A copy of the School Response Plan will detail how this process will operate in Avondale CC.
- Where a suspected case is identified, we will require parents to collect their son/daughter or have an appointed person available to do so.
- All parents are **REQUIRED** to update their contact details, emergency contacts, medical conditions for VS Ware in support of school communications. Contact the school office on 04002 46445 by Friday 4th September.
- It is essential that all staff & students who have been abroad in “non-green list countries” should not return to school until 14 days after arriving back to Ireland.
- The school policies are updated, to support the health and safety response to Covid 19. The Behaviour Management Policy is currently flexible enough to deal with issues of non-compliance, failure to follow instructions from a member of staff and unacceptable behaviour. However, the code will be further amended to reflect some Covid specific matters and is posted on the website for parents to read and reinforce with your son/daughter. The amendments will also form part of the student induction process when they return to Avondale CC. As in past years, all parents/students should read and sign the School Rules in the school journal.
- School transport queries should be directed to Bus Éireann as we do not coordinate transport matters.



Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board

Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.

Other decisions to date:

- Where social distancing of 2 metres is not possible students must wear a face covering. These should be washed/sanitised on a daily basis. We advise that students have 3-5 washable face coverings (plain colours, no logo or offensive images/slogans). Visors have also been purchased for all students and will be distributed on return.
- Students should have a pack which includes face coverings, anti-bacterial wipes, hand sanitizer gel and tissues.
- Social distancing, hand hygiene and good respiratory etiquette (covering the mouth and nose with tissue or coughing/ sneezing into bent elbow) should be observed by all students.
- Before students enter a room they are required to sanitize their hands outside the room at entry point. Students collect their blue disposable tissue, the teacher will spray each desk & chair and each pupil wipes their own desk/chair. Prior to leaving the room, students will be required to sanitize their chair and table again with the assistance of their teacher. Cleaning paper and sanitizer will be located in each classroom in Avondale CC to support this process. Students will sanitise their hands again with the dispenser inside the room before the teacher dismisses the class. The classroom door remains open where possible.
- Students should not share any items e.g. pens, calculators, water bottles etc.
- **Arriving to school** - Arrival of students to Avondale CC in the morning will take place from 8am onwards. Where possible, the boys' national school car park is to be used as a drop-off point, allowing students to walk up to the school to reduce congestion at the school gates. All first and second-year students must go to their base classrooms at 8.30am. School supervision will be in place from 8am. The movement of students during this period will be overseen by supervising teachers.
- The breakfast club will be operating from 8am to 8.40 and students will be eating in the same pod each day, sittings will be at 8.00, 8.10, 8.20 & 8.30.
- Where possible we request that students who live locally attend Avondale CC no earlier than 8:30am.



Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board

Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.

- No student should attend school if unwell or if any of the members of their household are unwell with symptoms consistent with Covid 19.
- Students should not come into school should they feel unwell/display any of the symptoms of Covid 19, (cough, fever, loss of smell/taste, shortness of breath). We require parents to make a judgement call each morning before allowing your son/daughter to attend school. The school community relies on your vigilance in this area.
- **Leaving school** - students should leave the school building through the designated doors at the end of the school day. Students should not loiter in the building at the end of the school day and those who are waiting for buses must do so whilst observing social distancing rules.
- **Access to Avondale CC** - for anyone other than staff & students **must be by appointment only**. This includes the dropping of items to the main office for students or general enquiries. Under no circumstance should a parent/guardian arrive at Avondale CC without a prior appointment. Visits to the school should be for essential reasons only. It is essential that all students arrive to school fully prepared and equipped each day.
- Designated courtyards for morning time and break times are assigned to 6th and TY students in the school to support pod-type social distancing. We are encouraging all students to go outside at break times and have ordered additional outdoor seating to facilitate this.
- **PE** - our PE classes will proceed as normal with a revised curriculum to support social distancing. As the gym changing rooms will not be available students will be permitted to wear their PE uniform for the duration of the day when they have PE. A letter is posted on the school website regarding the PE uniform.
- Lockers -will be in use but with restricted access. We ask that students be organised every morning as access to their locker will be restricted to twice per day. Students who wish to use their lockers after the last class period must wait 10 minutes to do so to reduce the risk of corridor congestion. Students are encouraged to retain their books at home where possible bring in only essential items to school each day. We will do our best to minimise the equipment needs of students for classes. Students



Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board

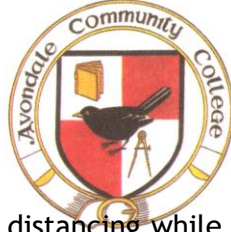
Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.

must adhere to 2m physical distancing while accessing lockers. Lockers not in use will be removed to storage.

- Students and teachers should not leave books/equipment on the bag racks, windowsills, top of lockers in the school overnight as all will be removed from the building every evening to ensure hard surfaces can be cleaned effectively. Please note, there must be no sharing of books or equipment in classrooms.
- Canteen -the canteen will be in operation in a restricted capacity. No plated meals will be available. Students must follow the markings on the floor regarding queuing. The canteen will have an entry and exit door system in operation. We encourage students, where possible, to bring their own lunch. Seating is available and set up so 2m social distancing can be maintained. Students need to wash/sanitise their hands before and after eating and store their mask safely while eating.
- The full school uniform is mandatory in Avondale CC however students are advised to change from their uniform when they arrive home.
- A blended learning plan - As the Covid crisis continues to evolve Avondale CC will continue to advance our digital learning platform - Microsoft Teams. All students and parents should ensure that they have access to this platform on their mobile phones, iPads, tablets or other IT devices. The teaching team revisited training on this platform and will continue to do so to ensure that, should a lockdown occur, students will remain connected with their studies and their teachers. Should you have any queries regarding this please contact Avondale Community College.
- We are proposing to add awing's outside of the canteen and possibly covering the both courtyards to help prepare for the winter months.

Avondale Community College is committed to promoting the values of respect, concern and consideration for all. Everyone in our school community now has a responsibility to one another to keep each other safe and to do so in respectful manner. I request all stakeholders' students, teachers, parents and auxiliary staff adhere to the above - this is Avondale CC playing its part in supporting the suppression of this disease and the reopening of our school. The Covid Response team will be meeting regular and this live plan will be updated where necessary and all stakeholders will be notified of any amendments.



Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board

Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan

AVONDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Telephone: 0404 46445

E-Mail: avondalecc@kwetb.ie



Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow.



Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board
Principal: – Elaine Fitzgerald

Deputy Principal: - Patricia Gahan