



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



19th August, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope you and your families have had a safe and enjoyable summer break. We are all delighted to welcome our students and staff back to the school for the new academic year. I look forward to meeting your daughter as we embrace the new teaching and learning world that we will all inhabit again this year. The return to school is a continued sign of our society gradually returning to normality. This will continue to happen as the vaccine programme concludes for secondary school age children. However the current public health advice released last night to schools means that we have to retain significant adaptations to school life to keep everyone in our community safe.

The warm OLS community spirit and focus on student wellbeing and reaching one's potential will still be the same as ever as we continue to adhere to public health advice.

We had hoped to have our new astro turf in place for the return to school however unfortunately this has been delayed due to Covid related production and delivery delays. The new provisional date for the resurfacing of the pitch is late October. This will give us all a boost to see wonderful new outside facilities available for our students.

We have placed the canteen out to tender and have appointed Get Fresh who will be up and running as soon as some restrictions are eased. We currently need to use Lourdes Hall as a fulltime classroom in line with social distancing regulations.

We are aware of the effects of remote teaching and learning on the curriculum and will be embedding core skills for all students at the start of the year. August and September will be dedicated 'Recovery Months' where staff will focus on any educational gaps that they identify have occurred due to the periods of remote learning and they will proactively address this.

The dedicated team in Our Lady's have already met, planned and activated the return to school plan which places student and staff safety at the centre of everything we do. A new updated Covid Response Plan will be uploaded to the website reflecting the latest government advice.

School Day

After student and staff consultation, we have extended lunch time to 50 minutes and hope that as the year progresses we will be able to fully open up our extensive extra curricular programme.

All year groups will be in school throughout lunch time **except for our 6th Years** who can leave to go home for lunch.

Templeogue Road, Terenure,
Dublin 6w, D6WKF44

T: 01 490 3241
F: 01 492 2511

E: principal@olschool.ie
W: www.olschool.ie

Principal:
Marguerite Gorby

Deputy Principals:
Stephen Rhatigan, Aoife Ronan



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	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	Wednesday
Start time	8.30am	8.30am
Number of 58 min classes a day	6	5
Break	20 mins (after Period 2)	20 mins (after Period 3)
Lunch	50 mins (after Period 4)	No lunch due to earlier finish
Finish time	3.28pm	1.40pm

Details on the availability of after school study will follow.

Please see below the back to school schedule. These dates are staggered to ensure a full induction for all students including on Covid procedures.

Back to School Schedule

Date	Students	Times
Wednesday 26th August	6th Year Councillors' Leadership Training	8.30am.
	1st Year Induction What to bring Small backpack. Packed lunch and a bottle of water. Pen and paper. Sunscreen. School jacket in case of rain. Students should wear their full school tracksuit.	10am - 2.30pm
Friday 27th August	6th Year students	9.30am - 11am
	5th Year students	9.15am - 11.15am

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	3rd Year students	9.30am -11am
Monday 30th August	1st Year students	8.30am - 11.00am
	2nd Year students	9am - 10.30am
	4th Year students	9am-11am
Tuesday 31st August	All students full day 1st Years start later	8.30am- 3.28pm 9am-3.28pm

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Continuing Covid Protocols

Masks

All students must bring a mask to school each day. There will be spare masks where needed however it is the student's responsibility to have a mask carried in a Ziploc bag. Students will be required to wear this mask where social distancing is an issue in the school building. Hand sanitiser will be used throughout the school day which will also be provided by the school. It is also recommended that students also carry their own supply with them in a Ziploc bag.

Uniform

Full school uniform will be worn to school each day. Your daughter will wear her PE school tracksuit and runners to school on the day that she has PE. She will stay in her PE uniform all day on the days that she has PE otherwise school uniform is to be worn. There is to be **no mixing of PE uniform and school uniform**. **Leggings** are not allowed to be worn to school on PE days under any circumstances.

Arrival to school, breaks and lunchtime

Students will be assigned a designated seat in their base classroom. Your daughter will go directly to this seat on arrival to school. There will be a one way system throughout the school and each year group will be informed about their designated exit and entry point to the school. Students will take all breaks in their base room.

A limited canteen service will be available catering only prepacked food. Further details of this will be made available in the coming weeks. Students will need to bring their own lunch with them if not purchasing from the canteen.

School Grounds

To assist with social distancing, no cars other than staff cars will be allowed to enter the school car park. All students are encouraged where possible to walk or cycle to school. Please also ensure that your daughter's bike has a lock and that she wears a helmet and high visibility clothing when cycling.

School Building

There will be limited access by parents to the school building for health and safety purposes. Only necessary visitors will be permitted entry to the building by prior appointment and a log will be filled in.

Code of Positive Behaviour

All parents and students must sign the Code of Positive Behaviour which includes a commitment to follow all Covid protocols to ensure the health and safety of the school community. Breaches of these protocols will be treated seriously and in line with the Code. Please also note the rules in the Code of Positive Behaviour relating to school uniform and piercings.

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School APP

It is imperative that all parents download the school App as information to parents will be conveyed through this platform. All letters will be posted solely on the App for all parents to access. If your daughter is absent for any reason notification must be given to the school. This notification must come by way of the school App (Our Lady's Terenure - downloadable at the iTunes and Android App stores). Simply click on the tab labelled "Absentee Form", fill out the information and send. This will notify the school immediately and an accurate record of attendance can be kept. Please also notify the school via the 'Permission to Leave' tab if your daughter needs to leave school early for an appointment. Please also use the App to let the school know if your daughter is late to school.

The first bell goes at 8.25am each morning. Each Year group will be assigned a specific entry point to assist social distancing. Latecomers must register in reception on arrival and reception will check that a reason has been submitted on the App. All students arriving late without an App submission must sign in at reception where they will be given a 'Late Stamp' in their journal following which, they must go straight to class without delay. We appreciate your cooperation in this regard as lateness has a serious negative impact on learning and teaching in the classroom.

Please ensure we have up to date contact details for you (home address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact numbers). Please advise us if your daughter has a medical condition or any allergies if you have not already done so.

I would like to draw your attention to the following in the Our Lady's Journal and on the school website: Code of Positive Behaviour, Anti Bullying Procedures and the Acceptable Use Policy.

Please ensure that your daughter has all her uniform and books clearly marked with her name. Parents should communicate with the secretary's office if they wish to make urgent contact with their daughter during the school day as students are required to keep phones switched off and in their lockers or in their bag during class time. **Students are not permitted to use their phones on the school premises unless authorised by staff for educational purposes.**

Please see the link below for access to parent information videos on back to school

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/#>

Changes to Assessment for Examination 2022 for 3rd and 6th Year parents

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9c82d-leaving-certificate-2022/>

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I wish to thank you for your continued support and cooperation during these changing times.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy academic year.

Yours sincerely

Marguerite Gorby
Principal

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