



26th June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student,

There is no doubt IB (Transition Year) is a year to develop the skills of an Independent Learner. Never was self motivation and independent learning more important than this year. You should be very proud of how you managed yourselves and if things did not go as well as you would have liked there is learning in that too. There is no doubt the entire education system wrapped itself tightly around the Leaving Certificate students of 2020 and the unique and very stressful times they found themselves in. You are now entering the Leaving Certificate programme and I have no doubt the resilience you have developed will serve you well. However, if ever there was a time to learn a lesson it was this year. Never leave things to the last minute, slow and steady work wins the race. While the world moves on from the trauma of Covid 19 in the hope that such will never blight our planet again we have to be aware that disasters do happen and that you as a professional student have as your best defense against such events a determination to do your school work to your best ability **every day** and do give every subject and house exam the best preparation and effort you can.

### **Message from Réaltóir Mc Cabe**

A key element of Idirbliain is the reflection on this unique year and the opportunities offered. While it has not been possible to submit the physical portfolio as normal, Idirbliain dáлтаí have had the opportunity to complete the Réaltóir Challenges. The Challenges included learning to cook a meal, complete a fitness plan, helping in the community, examples of stepping outside your comfort zone and much more. Idirbliain dáлтаí have excelled in this area, detailing how they have adjusted to the school closure and maintained their learning. There were heartwarming stories of how our dáлтаí have pushed

themselves to help out at home and in their community in this difficult time. These Challenges feed into a key aspect of Idirbliain in developing a student's confidence, independence and resilience.

I have really enjoyed being your Realtóir this year and I am very proud of your development over the year. Keep safe over the summer and be ready for action on your return to school remembering what I. McCarrick has in the above paragraph, every school day matters more than ever so 'hit the ground running' on your return as I know you can.

Maistir McCabe.

### **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. Academic performance this year has been 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 avoid adding extra stress to families in this difficult time)
- Providing some guidance for students to complete as much of the assigned work over the summer, where possible.

We are always very proud of the term based reports we provide each year especially around the area of detailed personalised feedback. Where a significant number of schools provide standard comments year round, CNI has always customised our reports with much greater detail. The above explains

why we decided on more generic comments this year and we will return to our traditional comment and feedback standard in the coming academic year.

### **Student Direct Costs**

As normal the 5<sup>th</sup> year 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 (please see attached which also shows the cost for last year as a comparison). The final payment date for these costs is 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 via Way2pay.

### **Return to School**

Though we are still unsure of exactly what the return to school will look like in August we are continuing to plan as best we can for a variety of possibilities all the time hoping for a full normal return. 5<sup>th</sup> year students return to school on 1st September. The Calendar is also on the website for you to view:

[https://www.colaistenahinse.ie/images/pdfs/2020-2021/Calendar\\_20202021.pdf](https://www.colaistenahinse.ie/images/pdfs/2020-2021/Calendar_20202021.pdf).

Be assured I will keep you updated of any changes via text and our website. Until we meet again, stay safe and have a lovely summer.

Le gach dea-ghuí,



Iníon Mc Carrick

## Student Direct Costs from Parents/Guardians for LMETB Schools for 2020/2021

**(Senior Cycle 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Yr)**

Subject to ratification by LMETB

All costs subject to annual review by BOM

LMETB School/College	2020-21	2019-20
<b>Details</b>	<b>Estimated Cost €215- For 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year</b>	<b>€215- 5<sup>th</sup> Yrs €245-6<sup>th</sup> Yrs</b>
Book Rental (per year)	80	80
Exams inc. Mocks*	20	Nil in 5 <sup>th</sup> yr as was loaded as bulk cost in 6 <sup>th</sup> year €30
Student Diary/Homework Journal	8 (Reduced by €2)	10
PPAI	8	8
Locker Rental/Replacement of Lock	NIL	NIL
Printing & Photocopying	22 (Reduction of €18)	40
Text to Parents	NIL (reduced by €2 as now part of Way2pay structure)	2
Co-curricular and Extra- curricular Activities Inc Lá Dearfachas, Dearfachas/RP	77	30
Optional Subject Materials	Some option subjects may have associated costs	Some option subjects may have associated costs
Lá Dearfachas	N/A	15
Dearfachas/RP	N/A	30

<b>Proposed Total Contribution Collected for 2020/2021</b>	<b>€215</b> <b>Note (Combined 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year costs €430) (Reduction of €30 on 2019-20)</b>	<b>Note: Combined 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year cost were €460</b>

**\*Note: Reference to Mock exams refers to Mock examination papers only and not any external corrections that may occur**

**\*Students are required to have past examinations papers and this is not covered by above**

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

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Principal</b>
<b>Date:</b>	