American College Dublin

Covid-19 Information Notice – Update 18 June 2021

- As we conclude our spring semester we send our best wishes to all our students, staff, friends and members of our community.
- ACD will formally commence the 2021/22 academic year on Monday, 13 September 2021; the preceding week will be taken up with registration, induction and orientation events, beginning Thursday, 9 September.
- Given the favourable course of the vaccination, testing and mitigation efforts that have been undertaken over the preceding months and the tenor of government guidances on the return of higher education, it is our expectation that ACD will resume teaching in September with classes and College activities delivered on a traditional, in-person basis.
- We will monitor the progress of the pandemic and government advice over the coming months and be ready to inform you of and implement whatever adjustments to the methods and means of course delivery and the associated activities of College life are necessary. That notwithstanding, it is currently our expectation that there will be minimal covid-related disruption to our work in the coming academic year.
- As always, in our planning and operations, our primary concern is the health, safety and welfare of our community, insofar as we are responsible for these matters in our educational facilities and related activities.
- This notice is intended to give ACD's community a preliminary indication of our expectations for our September re-opening; updates reflecting changes, if any, in relevant circumstances and our responses to them will issue on 15 July, 17 August, and, finally, on 1 September 2021.
- Under our updated covid-19 plan, we are preparing for the following scenarios, in what we presently expect to be the most likely order for them to arise:

Scenario A

The College will open with classes and associated activities provided in the traditional inperson format, adhering to Department of Education and Department of Health scientific advice, guidelines and protocols on health and safety in education and the workplace (provision of sanitization facilities, adherence to physical distancing guidelines and the like; greater detail on the precise nature of these provisions, as required, will be provided as we approach September). If quarantining is necessary for students arriving from abroad, the College will provide fully remote instruction until the quarantine period has completed.

Scenario B

The College will open with a blend of traditional delivery physical classes and activities in small groups and remote teaching enabled by Zoom and Moodle. The College hopes to avoid this approach, but will adhere to the advice given in government guidelines.

Scenario C

If required by government mandate, the College will open in September with fully remote teaching and associated activities delivered by Zoom and Moodle.

Scenario D

The College will open under Scenario A or B, but will be prepared to revert completely to fully remote teaching and activities within 24 hours if required to do so.