



# Coláiste Pobail Acla

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are writing to inform you that we have noticed an increase in the number of students 'signing out' early on a daily basis from our school. This is an increasing problem for all of us in Colaiste Pobail Acla and was recently highlighted in a Department of Education Inspectors report. To help improve this, we are running a campaign for the month of November called 'Strive for 5' to encourage students to attend 5 days a week for the FULL day.

Days absent from school can often result in students missing out on important class work and course content which impacts on exam performance and end of term results. Any student who misses out on vital course work being covered in class cannot perform to the best of their ability in an exam and may struggle with schoolwork. Therefore, it is vital that full attendance be maintained in so far as possible in the future.

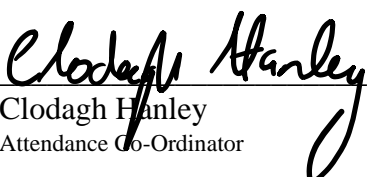
Please note that the school is obliged to notify the Education Welfare Services of any student under the age of 16 who misses 20 days or more in any school year.


We understand that we have all faced unprecedented challenges in the past couple of years in relation to Covid-19 and the risk that it poses in our school community. However, it is vital that parents continue to send their child to school everyday, as days missed have a direct impact on your childs' learning, performance in exams and most importantly, their well-being.

The 'Strive for 5' campaign will begin on November 1<sup>st</sup> and the aim is to encourage all students to attend school EVERY day for the FULL day. There will be prizes available at the end of the month for students who achieve this and for students who have improved on their attendance levels. The 2 class groups (junior & senior) with the highest attendance rate for the month will be treated to a day out in December which will include food and activities. It is important that parents support their child in this campaign and not 'sign out' a student early during the day, where possible,..... as this will have a direct impact on their child's class group for the competition. Please arrange any medical/dental appointments for Friday afternoons where possible.

If your child is experiencing any problems at school or at home, please do not hesitate to contact Nic Ryan (HSCLO) on 086-4177156 so that the school can help to support your child and encourage them to attend school as much as possible.

Yours sincerely,

  
Clodagh Hanley  
Attendance Co-Ordinator

  
Nic Ryan  
Home School Community Liason Officer Attendance Co-Ordinator  
(HSCLO)