## Minister Harris launches new COVID-19 information campaign for students and young adults

From Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science

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Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Simon Harris TD has today (Wednesday) launched a <u>new COVID-19 information campaign for students and young adults.</u>

The video, which has been made in partnership with HSE Public Health West, highlights the risks associated with gatherings and gives a real-life example of a recent outbreak that led to hundreds of COVID-19 infections.

Speaking today, Minister Harris said:

"Students, and all young adults, have suffered enormously as a result of COVID-19 and are understandably fed up with restrictions.

"The video outlines the risks associated with gatherings of friends. What started as one meetup resulted in 400 cases. It shows how easily the virus can spread and how a breach of the restrictions can really set back the progress we are making. I would urge people to watch it and share the video among friends.

"It is not easy and we know people are doing their best. We are making real progress and could well be on track for a much better situation this summer but we can't do anything to jeopardise that. This will not be forever.

"I also want to make sure we continue to support students at this really tough time. Work is underway to see what more we can do to support their wellbeing. Later this month, we will receive and consider a report from a new group which is examining student wellbeing. We are also intensively working on ensuring there can be a much better college experience in this academic year. So, please hold firm and stay safe. Together, we will get there."