



Can I Come to School?

This list applies to First Day Back, and every day thereafter

- Do you have symptoms of cough, fever, high temperature, sore throat, runny nose, breathlessness or flu like symptoms now or in the past 14 days?
- Have you been diagnosed with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection in the last 14 days?
- Are you awaiting the result of a Covid-19 test?
- Have you been advised by the HSE that you are a close contact of a person who is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Have you been advised to self-isolate on return from a non-green list country within the last 14 days?
- Have you been advised by a doctor to self-isolate at this time?
- Have you been advised by your doctor that you are in the very high risk group?

If you answer “**Yes**” to any of the above, **do not** come to school.

Contact your doctor

Follow advice from doctor/NPHET.

Preparing for Returning to School with your Child:

Be positive about returning or starting school. Pupils will need to be able to manage their belongings for themselves. Build their confidence and independence skills by showing how to manage their lunches, bags, shoes and clothes. Practice putting on coats, opening lunches and lunch boxes etc. and packing away in the schoolbag.

There are a number of children in the school with a severe nut allergy – Anaphylaxis. **This means that any contact with nuts or foods containing nuts or nut traces can be potentially fatal.** It is vital that these children do not come into contact with these products.

I would ask that you as parents/guardians be aware of this situation when preparing your child’s lunch.

In the current circumstances, sharing is **not** caring. Please explain that they may not use other pupils’ belongings or share their own.

Show your child proper hand hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, and remind them to dispose of tissues in the bin.

Please give your child a personal sanitizer and show them how to use it. This will be for supervised classroom use after being outside and before eating etc.

For children in First & Second Classes, prepare them for walking to school, or to your agreed meeting point by doing a few dry runs on the route. Point out where Lollipop Ladies will be and where they should enter and exit the campus.

School Uniform:

Navy Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore; Grey Shirt; Grey Jumper/Cardigan; Navy/Red Striped Tie (only available Pat O'Farrell)

PE Tracksuit:

Grey Sweatshirt; Red Polo Shirt; Navy Tracksuit Bottoms

School Uniform and tracksuit are available from Pat O'Farrell, Airside. Generic Non-Branded Uniforms or Tracksuits may be purchased elsewhere but must be in the colours listed above. Iron on school crests are available from the school office (re-opening 24th August).

Normally PE tracksuit is only worn on designated PE days, however, during the current COVID-19 pandemic children may wear either uniform or PE Tracksuit on any day. The option of wearing school tracksuit may make use of bathroom facilities easier for Infants.

Pupils Personal Belongings

These should be clearly marked with the child's name and room number.

Please make sure your child has a rain jacket, if your child cannot tie laces Velcro shoes should be worn.

Coming to, and Going Home from School

Younger pupils, up to and including Second Classes are not expected to observe strict social distancing. They do not need face coverings; they may line up as normal in yard, but should play separately and line up at a 1 -2m distance.

However the adults on site **are** expected to observe strict social distancing, and must wear a face covering.

We are instructed by the Department of Education and Public Health Authorities to keep the numbers of adults on campus as low as possible and to observe Public Health measures. We are working closely with the Senior School on these issues

One adult only with each child. Adults on campus **must wear a face covering** and respect a **2m social distance** from other adults and children.

Adults must keep their time on campus to a minimum and be aware of choke points at gates etc.

The presence of adults on site constitutes the single highest risk factor in ensuring that the school remains open.
We are relying on your cooperation to help us reduce this risk factor.

Our drop off and home time arrangements have been demonstrated on our videos and are bullet pointed below

Junior Infants:

Staggered attendance for Junior Infants for the first 10 days, reverting to normal times thereafter

- One adult only with each child
- Keep time on campus to a minimum

- Face coverings for adults and social distancing to be observed.
- Rooms 1, 3 & 5 arrive at 9.00, pick up at 12.00
- Rooms 2, 4, & 6 arrive at 9.10, pick up at 12.10
- Access school via Main Gate only,
- Queue as directed to drop off at classroom external doors.
- Pupils to be given into teacher's care 2m from door, parents may not enter classroom
- Pick up will be at classroom external doors. Repeat morning arrangements
- Enter and leave via Main Gate only

Senior Infants:

- One adult only with each child
- Keep time on campus to a minimum
- Face coverings for adults and social distancing to be observed.
- Morning line up in yard, at class number at normal time
- Teachers and SNAs will be at class number from 8.40am for initial period
- Parents may bring their child to the end of class line to ensure safe arrival, but should depart once child has been seen to the line
- Do not approach the teacher or SNA
- No access to campus before 8.40
- 1.30 pickup will be from the same yard,
- Enter and leave via church gate

First Classes

- Preferably, children either walk to school or from arranged drop off point.
- Parents should not enter the campus
- Classes will line up in yard, at class number at normal time
- All teachers and SNAs will be at line up points for first few days. Yards will be supervised from 8.40 after that
- Children may not arrive on campus before 8.40
- Children will join line on arrival, (no play time please)
- Access via Church Gate or Main Gate preferably
- 2.30, children will be brought to yard, and may exit via Church Gate or Main Gate to walk home or meet parent
- In the small number of cases, where a child must be met on site, pick up will be from the yard

* A permission slip to allow children leave the campus accompanies this information sheet - please give to your child to give to teacher on first day back to school

*Siblings attending the Senior School may drop off and collect if timetables allow

*Where a pupil has SNA support, one parent may come on campus to ensure safe arrival/collection

Second Classes

- Preferably, children either walk to school or from arranged drop off point.
- Parents should not enter the campus
- Classes will line up in yard, at class number at normal time
- Rooms 17 – 20 have a new line up point, see video
- All teachers and SNAs will be at line up points for first few days. Yards will be supervised from 8.40 after that
- Children may not arrive on campus before 8.40
- Children will join line on arrival, (no play time please)
- Access via Church Gate or Main Gate preferably
- 2.30, children in Rooms 15 & 16 will be brought to yard, and may exit via Church Gate or Main Gate to walk home or meet parent
- Children in Rooms 17 – 20 will be brought to doors near carpark, (same as current procedure) and may exit via Church Gate or Main Gate to walk home or meet parent
- In the small number of cases, where a child must be met on site, pick up will be from the yard or on path at carpark

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2.30 Home time is another High Risk Time as large numbers of pupils will be leaving the campus.

Please do not congregate at the gates. Be particularly aware of the older pupils who will be observing Social Distancing as they leave the campus, and allow them space to disperse safely.

Do arrive on time both morning and afternoons

Do Not stay on the campus for any longer than necessary

Other People Dropping off/Collecting

Parents, please ensure that the arrangements are explained and understood.

After School childcare providers etc.

Drop off as detailed above for Senior Infants 1st Classes and 2nd Classes.

For Junior Infants, as detailed above, however childcare workers may not bring a group of children to the queue, unless they are in the same classroom.

Pick up 1st Classes and 2nd Classes: an offsite assembly point will be arranged by the childcare personnel. We suggest that this be close to the Church Gate as the safest exit option. The arrangements should have been discussed between Childcare providers and parents and then explain the arrangement clearly to the children.

Senior Infants: A Childcare worker may come on site to collect children from the yard at 1.30. Children should be directed to the offsite assembly point, where they can be supervised until all children have arrived.

Junior Infants: A Childcare worker may come on site to collect children from the yard at 1.30. Children should be brought to the offsite assembly point, where they can be supervised until all children have arrived.

A permission note is attached to allow 1st & 2nd Class pupils leave the campus to meet parents, childcare etc outside the school gates. Please complete and send in schoolbag on Thursday 27th.

Sick Children

Should a child present with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, HSE protocols will be followed, with the child isolated and parents contacted for immediate pick up. Should we be unable to contact a parent, an ambulance must be called.

For other injuries etc, normal procedures will be followed with the parent contacted to pick up their child. The child will remain in the classroom until the parent arrives at the main door. The child will then be brought out to the parent.

Do not send a sick child to school. This may put the whole school community at risk, and could result in the closure of the school. See “Can I Return to School?” above.

The School Day

Bubbles and Pods: see our videos for an overview

The concept of Bubbles (the classroom) and Pods (groups within the classroom) will be the guiding principle in planning the children’s school day. We will be keeping the bubbles apart by keeping contact between the pupils in different classes to a minimum. Teachers will restrict themselves to as few classrooms as possible and social distancing will be observed among the staff.

We will be working in pods in the classroom. It is recognised that younger children will have difficulty grasping the concept of a pod and that limited interaction between pods is inevitable. As the pods correspond closely to the familiar groups and normal table lay-out, we will keep the children’s classroom experience as close to normal as possible.

There will be some differences however, and you will be able to prepare your child by talking about these before returning:

- teachers and SNAs will wear visors if 2m distance cannot be observed,
- Each class will have their own section of the yard to play in.
- No visiting other classrooms

Returning to Learning:

We will be following a “Slow Down to Catch Up” approach here, allowing the children get settled back into school routine. We envisage that the first term will be taken up with revising the content from last year and gradually moving to this year’s content. There will be an emphasis on Wellbeing, SPHE, PE, Language and Maths. Please return the books from last year, to allow teachers see where children are at and to plan for the initial revision and catch-up.

Good news for children (and Parents)

No homework for the first few weeks as we settle back into our school routines.

Contacting Teachers

Please do not approach your teacher in the yard. Respect the social distancing for staff and other children.

A note may be written in the homework journal. We will reopen the teachers' g-mail accounts for brief messages...sick notes etc. However be aware that teachers are fully engaged with their classes and will not be able to devote much time to correspondence.

Visiting the School

All visits to the school will be by appointment only. Please ring the school to arrange any necessary visits. All visitors entering the school premises will be required to complete contact tracing documentation.

There is no public access to toilet facilities in the school

The links to our videos are below

Junior Infants:

<https://youtu.be/kEfrCuCR21g>

Senior Infants:

<https://youtu.be/UKdyHkH3Y-Y>

First & Second Standards:

<https://youtu.be/3EJO3Sv5Q8E>