

For Parents

Scoil Aoife

COVID-19

Questions and Answers for Parents

- What are the most important things I need to do/know as a parent?
 - Make yourself aware of HSE guidelines regarding the symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Look at the documents available to parents on the school website regarding drop of and collection arrangements for school.
 - Remember to wear a face covering on school **and** remain socially distant from other parents and children when on school grounds.
 - Parents are not allowed in the school building. Parents are not allowed to approach teachers when dropping off their children. Appointments to come to the school can be made at the office or through Aladdin Connect.

- When does school start?
 - Wednesday the 26th of August for Junior Infants.
 - Thursday the 27th for Senior Infants, 1st Class, 2nd Class, 3rd Class, 4th Class and 5th Class.

- What are the arrangements for dropping children off and collecting them?
 - Please see the e-mail sent on Tuesday 25 August 2020 for details on drop off and collection. This is also available to see on our school website.

- What do the children need to bring to school?
 - Just themselves! Children do not need a school bag, pencils, erasers, sharpeners or colouring pencils with them.
 - Children should have a good raincoat in case it is raining as no one will be able to congregate in groups inside the school.

- Do the children need to bring lunch?
 - No, children will be provided with Glanmore lunch as usual during the school year.
Children with allergies can make arrangements with their class teacher so that they can bring their own food to school.

- What do I do if I suspect my child might have COVID-19?
 - Don't send your child to school.
 - Contact your GP.
 - Contact the school.
 - Follow HSE guidelines.

- What do I do if someone within my household is being tested for COVID-19?
 - Don't send your child to school.
 - Contact your GP.
 - Contact the school.
 - Follow HSE guidelines.

- What if a child/staff member tests positive for COVID-19?
 - The school has procedures in place in the event that someone tests positive for COVID-19.
 - The bubble/pod system along with social distancing and hygiene routines will ensure that staff and children can continue to come to school in the event of a positive test.
 - The school will be in close contact with the HSE and the Department of Education and will follow all advice.

- What are the arrangements for bubbles and pods in school?
 - All classes are a bubble. Children will stay socially distant from children in other classes.
 - The Magic Garden is a bubble.
 - Within 3rd, 4th and 5th class there will be pods of 4/5 children. Children will stay socially distant from children in other pods.
 - The Hazel and Willow rooms in the Magic Garden are pods.

- Face coverings.
 - Children do not have to wear a face covering but can do so if they want.
 - Teachers/SNAs do not have to wear a face covering when teaching but it is recommended they wear one if 2 metres distance cannot be maintained.
 - Parents/Adults must wear a face covering on school grounds.

- Classroom setup
 - Junior Classes which are setup normally will ensure;
 - There will be 2 metres between the teacher's desk and children's desks.
 - Senior classes are ensuring;
 - There will be 1 metre between pods.
 - There will be 2 metres between pods and the teacher's desk.

- Hygiene/Hand Sanitising
 - Children will wash their hands;
 - When they come to class
 - Before they eat
 - After yard time
 - Children will hand sanitise
 - Before handling resources

- Resources
 - Children within a bubble can share resources (Junior Classes)
 - Children within a pod can share resources (Senior Classes)
 - Resources that are to be shared between pods/bubbles must be left to stand for 72 hours or sanitised.
 - School Books
 - Junior Classes – Books stored on shelves in groups.
 - Senior Classes – Books stored on shelves in pods.

-What is the situation with yard breaks?

- Yard breaks have been split to ensure distancing. The arrangements are
 - Junior Classes and the Magic Garden
 - Little break 10.30am (20 minutes)
 - Big Break 12.30pm (20 minutes)
 - Senior Classes
 - Little Break 11.00am (20 minutes)
 - Big Break 1.00pm (20 minutes)