



Scoil Iosef Naofa

Corville, Roscrea

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Back to school Roadmap: What parents/guardians need to know

Dear Parents/Guardians, we can't wait to welcome the boys and girls back to school on Thursday 27th August. Preparations for reopening are well underway, our school has been industrial cleaned, we have installed new hand sanitizing stations in every classroom/entrance/exit and hallway. Our main aim is to prevent the risk of infection coming into school and we can't do this without your help!

You should not, under any circumstances, send your child to school if they have a temperature, a cough of any kind, loss of smell/taste or have any kind of shortness of breath.

If you are in any doubt whether you should send your child to school or not, please err on the side of caution and keep them at home to help keep our school open.

Measures to keep your child safe:

- The school day will commence at 9.10 a.m. for infants 5th and 6th class. It will start at 9.20am for 1st/2nd/3rd and 4th classes. This is to prevent big gatherings in the yard. The school will finish at 2pm juniors/senior infants and 3pm seniors (1st-6th class).
- Children cannot arrive to school before 8.55 am.
- Children must enter the school premises independently. Junior/senior infants enter through the front blue gates of the infant yard and all senior pupils to the rear of the school. Ms. Mc Mahon and Ms. Darcy will welcome our junior infants as they approach the gates and an SNA will walk them into their classrooms where staff members will supervise the pupils until the bell rings.
- Throughout the school there are hand sanitizers provided which children will be required to use and will be asked to regularly wash their hands in school. All toilets are fitted with new hand dryers.
- Once school starts classes will be confined to mixing with pupils in their own class group, this includes break times and no whole school assemblies will



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take place until further notice.

- Within each class, the children will be grouped into pods which will be distanced from each other as much as classroom space allows. Children from 3rd – 6th will be required to stay in their pods and keep socially distant from other pods.
- Children will be required to use their own resources where possible i.e. Pencils, scissors, etc. and sharing of resources particularly 3rd – 6th will not be allowed.
- Staff will maintain a regular cleaning routine with all of resources and materials that will be used by different pods or classes. Where necessary items of school equipment will be isolated for 72 hours prior to be used by different classes.
- The school will be cleaned daily under Government/HSE guidelines.
- Each class level teacher will have a laser temperature thermometer to check pupil's temperatures daily to ensure our school can safely stay open.
- If your child becomes ill in school with any symptoms of Covid-19, they will be immediately cared for in an isolation room where they will remain until they are collected. They must be collected as soon as possible. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date and provide an emergency number also. If your child is displaying Covid-19 symptoms and you are phoned to collect your child, you are required to inform your doctor immediately and proceed to follow government guidelines of self-isolation.

School Response Plan:

- If a child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 it is the responsibility of the teacher to inform one of our Lead Worker Responders (LWR) and also one of our selected SNA's to bring the child safely to the selected isolation room adhering to social distancing at all times.
- While in the isolation room, the (LWR) will make the child safe and secure. The child will receive a small bottle of water and a tissue should they need to cough. They will also have their temperature checked while in the room.
- The child's parents will be informed immediately from the updated telephone numbers given to the school. We will advise parents to inform the doctor immediately, collect their child as soon as possible and follow HSE guidance on self-isolation.
- If the child is showing symptoms the (LWR)/SNA will ask the child to wear a facemask while exiting the building to prevent any further spread of Covid-19.
- The child will be walked to their parents who will be advised to wait in the outside sheltered area.
- A follow up phone call will be made to the child's parents in relation to the medical advice received. If the child is not taken to the doctor, they will not be permitted to come back to school. A letter from your GP will be required for

your child to return to school.

- All Covid-19 incidents and details will be logged and kept securely in school.
- All pupils and family related pupils sharing the same house will be required to self-isolate for the required number of days following Department of Education/HSE guidelines.
- **All parents that are asked to collect their child from school are asked to ring the school bell to inform our secretary you have arrived and wait in the sheltered area in the infant yard. Your child will be escorted to you by a Lead Worker Representative (LWR)/SNA.**

How can you help?

- Take your child's temperature before coming to school and ensure their hands are clean.
- We are asking parents that every child has their own small bottle of hand sanitizer and a packet of tissues with them each day.
- Do not enter the school grounds, unless prior permission to do so has been granted by the school.
- Communicate with your child's teachers by homework journal. Do not allow your child to bring any personal items, which are not necessary for school, into school i.e. toys, teddies etc.
- Encourage your child to wash or sanitize their hands on arrival at school, before eating, after using the toilet, after playing outdoors at break-time, when their hands are physically dirty and when the cough or sneeze.

Classroom Bubbles and Pods:

As per guidelines Pods are not a requirement in junior to second class.

Children from 3rd to 6th class are required to be seated in pods of 4 to 6 pupils. There will be a distance of one to two meters between each pod. While indoors children are required where possible to remain in their pods. Outdoors they can play with all children in their own classroom. Each classroom will have their own section in the yard to play at break-times. In line with Government guidelines we have staggered both our school start and break-times.

Nut Free School:

I would like to remind all parents/guardians that Corville is a nut free school. For the safety of all pupils please don't pack any nut product in their lunches.



New Beginnings in Corville:

Both myself and the staff in Scoil Iosef Naofa are aware there will be changes due to Covid-19 but we are committed to keeping our school a fantastic place for children. It is vital to follow government guidelines, but it is also vital to acknowledge that we are dealing with little children who must be allowed to grow and reach their potential in a **safe and happy environment**. Mistakes will be made by myself and my staff as these are unprecedented times, and I know you will show understanding and support your school as you always do. In return I promise all the boys and girls that there are fantastic times ahead awaiting them in your school. In keeping with our school motto **“To The Brave and Faithful Anything Is Possible”**.



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