



# Return to School



**Back to School Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August**

## Welcome Back

Dear Families,

I hope this Return to School leaflet finds you well and that you have all had a very enjoyable summer break. I'm sure you are tired of the "Back to School" reminders everywhere and apologies for sending yet another one!!!!

In truth the countdown is on, and I wanted to bring you up to speed on our plan for welcoming all the children back to school at the end of the month. Many of the measures we had in place during the last school year will remain for now. We will continue with our Pods, Bubbles, Sanitising etc. The different entry and exit points to the school will be the same and are highlighted below. However, we are making a change here to simplify drop off in the mornings for families.

Please cast an eye over the information below, and the full Return to School document can be found on our school website. Should you have any concerns, please contact me at the school. I have no doubt that we will all continue to work together to ensure the positive return for all the whole school community.

Regards,  
Alan Hobbins

### Most Notable Change

This year we hope to make life easier for families at morning drop off. We also hope to limit the need for congregation at the school gates. So instead of group times, we will have family drop off time in the mornings.

9am	9:05am
<b>Children with Surnames A - H</b> <b>Children on the Bus</b> <b>Children attending Creches</b>	<b>Children with Surnames I - W</b> <b>*Please note surnames with O or Mc are considered to start with O or M.</b>

This will mean the same drop off time for children in the one family. For example; children in the 'Brown' family will all come into school at 9am. Children in the 'McCostello' family will all come at 9:05am. Children will go straight to their class. Please note our map below for the necessary routes to access the respective classes.

Please **do not** arrive at the school gate prior to the allocated time above. For Health & Safety reasons and primarily for the safety of children accessing the school, we must reduce congregation at the main gates. Please adopt a 'Drop & Go' approach in the mornings.

### **Sanitising on Entry**

Children will be met at the different doors by members of school staff who will dispense hand sanitiser before children make their way to their classrooms, where they will be met by the class teacher.

### **Parish Field Gate**

To further reduce the congregation at the school gate, we would request that families, where possible would make use of the parish field gate – parking down beside the playground. Please **do not** park at the gate in **Caragh Lawns**. This is a private estate and there are many children using this entrance and exit. The safety of the children is always paramount.

### **Return to School Declaration**

A Return to School Declaration will have to be completed on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August before the children come back to school on Tuesday.

This Declaration is merely to confirm that the children are well and do not have to isolate for any reason. No information is passed onto the HSE.

Anytime your child is absent from school this form must be completed.

### **Infant Parents**

**New Junior Infants.** Please note that we have a separate routine for the first two weeks. This will be emailed to you also.

**Senior Infant** parents will be able to walk children to their assigned door for the first few mornings.

### **New Children / Families**

We fully appreciate these are new arrangements for some families who are joining our school. We will meet at the main reception and show the children to the respective classrooms.

### **Bus**

**All** bus children will come to school as before and will line up as we did last year and will enter the school at 9am regardless of surname. Children getting the bus **do not** have permission to go to the shop in the mornings or evenings. This is for safety reasons.

### **Labels, Labels, Labels.**

Please be sure to put your child's name on ALL jumpers and jackets. Each year we are left with a large amount of lost property.

### **Necessary Measures**

We will all continue with all the mitigating measures we had in place last year. Staff members will continue to wear masks. Sanitising and hand hygiene is still required, as is sneeze and cough etiquette. We would ask you to reiterate this to the children. Book boxes will still be in operation in each classroom and we would ask that each child would have a 'school' & 'home' pencil case. Classroom ventilation will continue to be very important and this will be monitored closely this year.

### **Golden Rule**

**If Unwell, Do Not Attend School.** This rule worked very well last year, and with ever changing variants of Covid, we would ask you to continue with this mindset, thus keeping all children and staff safe and healthy.

### **Accessing the School**

**Cars** are no longer be permitted through the school gates as children will be coming to school through all 3 gates at the front of the school.

**Forgotten Items** will have to be left in a box inside the front door from where children can collect them later.

# Staggered Day

<b>9am</b>	<b>9:05am</b>
<b>Children with Surnames A - H Children on the Bus Children attending Creches</b>	<b>Children with Surnames I - W</b> *Please note surnames with O or Mc are considered to start with O or M.

<u>Blue Group</u>	
Class	Door
Junior Infants Ms Banks	1
Senior Infants Ms Dwyer	2
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Ms McNulty	6
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Ms Shally	5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Ms Marsh	4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Ms Troy	3
4 <sup>th</sup> Class Ms Kenny	4
5 <sup>th</sup> Class Ms Cantillon	7
6 <sup>th</sup> Class Mr Corkery	7

Infant Home Time:	1:40pm
Home Time:	2:40pm

<u>Yellow Group</u>	
Class	Door
Junior Infants Ms O Reilly	1
Senior Infants Ms Hanly	2
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Ms Burke	3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Ms Dunleavy	5
3 <sup>rd</sup> Class Ms Hamill	4
4 <sup>th</sup> Class Mr Rogers	3
5 <sup>th</sup> Class Ms Duggan	7
6 <sup>th</sup> Class Mr Dunlea	6
6 <sup>th</sup> Class Ms Mullally	7

Infant Home Time:	1:45pm
Home Time:	2:45pm

Teachers will escort children to the Parish Field Gate & Main Gates at home times.

**Gate A:** Doors 3 & 4 Through side gate.

**Gate B:** Doors 1 & 2: Across the Zebra Crossing

**Gate C:** Doors 5, 6, & 7: Around the rear of the school.

**Use Parish Gate to Access Doors 2 - 7**

## Access to Our School Each Day

- Door 1  
Main Door
- Door 2  
End of Infant Corridor
- Door 3  
Through Small Gate
- Door 4 & 5  
Corner of Yard
- Door 6  
To Sunnystreet
- Door 7  
Beside Astro

