



St. Peter's National School Drogheda



Principal:
Ms. Geraldine McKenna

25th August 2021

Logistics Plan for Re-opening of the School

Underlying Principles

- The school has a responsibility to make effort to ensure the safety, health and well-being of all members of our school community – children, parents and staff. This plan has been formulated to better ensure that the school can exercise that duty of care.
- Assuming it is in keeping with public health advice and guidelines issued by the Department of Education and Skills, it is preferable for all children to return to school for all five days of the school week and for a full school day. This plan has been formulated to achieve that aim.
- It is not possible to eliminate the risk of infection. However, with the co-operation of all members of our school community, it is possible to minimise the risk of the virus being introduced to school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- As well as co-operation, the flexibility and goodwill of all will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

Assumptions

- All children return to school and classes operate within a bubble system
- The school is split into groups with each group having different starting times, break times, lunch times and finishing times.
- Groups will be constituted of 1st and 2nd classes and 3rd and 4th classes (group 1) and Junior & Senior Infants and 5th and 6th classes (group 2)
- The day will include 2 x 20 minute breaks
- Within each class from Juniors to 2nd class - the children will be further divided into pods, with a minimum distance of 1 metre being maintained between pods
- Within each class from 3rd to 6th class – the children will be sitting with a minimum distance of 1 meter between each child.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms – 20 wall mounted hand sanitisers have been placed at entry and exit points and in each room in the school. In addition, class teachers will be supplied with spray bottle of hand sanitiser liquid which can be used in class. Hand washing will also be encouraged in class at regular intervals and when required.

Timetables

Timetable for Group 1 3 rd and 4 th Classes 1 st and 2 nd Classes	Timetable for Group 2 5 th and 6 th Classes	Timetable for Group 2 Junior & Senior infants
9am – School arrival 9.10 – School start 10.20 – Break time 10.40 – Class resumes 12.30 – Lunch time 12.50 – Class resumes 2.50 – Classes finish	9.10 – School arrival 9.20 – School start 10.40 – Break time 11.00 – Class resumes 12.50 – Lunch time 1.10 – Class resumes 3.00 – Classes finish	9.10 – School arrival 9.20 – School start 10.30 – Break time 10.50 – Class resumes 12.50 – Lunch time (until 6/9/21 junior infants will finish school at 12.30) 1.10 – Class resumes 2.00 – Infant classes finish

Please note that due to social distancing requirements and size of room 1st and 2nd class will be upstairs.

Key to Entrances & Exits

Entrance and Exit Points	Number
Front left of school using the school gate on the left	1
Main School Entrance using the school gate on the right	2

Entrance & Exit Points for Specific Classes

Teacher	Entrance & Exit Point
Junior & Senior Infants	1
1 st and 2 nd Classes	2
3 rd and 4 th Classes	1
5 th and 6 th Classes	2

Arrival at school

- We ask for co-operation with these times as it will mean that the numbers congregating on school grounds at any one time will be minimised.
- Each class should proceed to their classroom immediately upon entering the school via their designated entrance point at the appropriate time.

- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by email or by phoning the school office and leaving a message with the secretary.

End of School Day

- Adults, who are collecting their children from school at the end of the day, should wait outside the school gate which has been designated to their class.
- When the school day for that class is over the following arrangements will apply – the class teacher will bring the children to their designated entrance/exit point and will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them

Collection of Children during the School Day

If an adult has to collect a child during the course of the school day, the following arrangements will apply

- When the adult arrives at the school, they should either phone the to alert the office that they have arrived
- The child will be brought from their class to the adult by a member of staff
- No adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so

Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19

Pupils should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If a pupil displays symptoms of Covid-19 while in the building, the following are the procedures will be implemented:

- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately
- The child will be accompanied to the designated isolation area via the isolation route by a member of staff. The staff member will remain at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic child and will also make sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic child at all times
- A mask will be provided for the child presenting with symptoms. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises
- An assessment will be made as to whether the child who is displaying symptoms can immediately be brought home by parents and call their doctor and continue self-isolation at home
- The school will facilitate the child presenting with symptoms to remain in isolation, if they cannot immediately go home, and will assist them by calling their GP.
- The child presenting with symptoms should be advised to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and to put the tissue in the waste bag provided
- If the child is well enough to go home, the school will arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible, and advise them to inform their GP by phone of their symptoms. Public transport of any kind should not be used
- If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, the school will contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick child is a Covid-19 suspect.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.

The HSE will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed.

Children who should not attend school

If your child is in one of the following categories, they should not attend school –

- Children who have been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending

- Children who have been in contact with a person who has a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school
- Children who have returned home after travelling from a non-designated state and must self-isolate for a period of 14 days (See Point 11 from HPSC isolation Guide – August 2021)
- Children who are generally unwell

Supporting the Learning of Children who cannot attend school

If a child is not able to attend school for an extended period of time, the class teacher (and/or the learning support teacher, where relevant) suggested activities to support the child's learning at home will be shared with parents.

Impact of a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Covid-19 in a Class

If the school is notified that a person in your child's class has a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19

- The parents of all children in the class will be notified
- Public health advice will be sought and followed

Personal Equipment

The school will provide a pouch or container which will hold each child's pencils, crayons, etc., and which will be labelled with their name.

Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in classrooms. Cleaning of such shared equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

Ventilation

All windows and doors will remain open in classroom and communal areas to ensure cross ventilation within these spaces. All classroom Velux windows will remain open during the school day should the weather permit. (Precipitation causes these windows to close automatically).

Yards

Yards will be supervised by class teachers, learning support teachers and SNA and other school staff working within those bubbles.

Learning Support

In keeping with our Special Education policy, learning support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal. The provision of support will be organised to ensure our support teachers will work within the confines of a bubble.

- Where a support teacher is working alongside a class teacher in a classroom, both teachers must be mindful of maintaining social distance from one another.
- Where children from 3rd to 6th Class receive support in one of the SET rooms, social distancing of 1 metre will be maintained between each child in the group.
- The tables and chairs in SET rooms will be wiped clean in between different groups attending

PPE

While it is not envisaged that PPE will be worn by staff in general, staff who are attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid will wear appropriate PPE including gloves and face masks. Visors and face masks will be supplied for use to staff in the school and the use of same is optional for staff members. Where it is not possible for a staff member to remain within one meter of a child, staff will be wearing visors and masks.

Teacher Absence and Substitution

In the event that teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. If a substitute teacher is not available, it is not appropriate for the class to be divided into groups and accommodated in other classes. In such circumstances, it may not be possible for the class to attend on that day. If that is the case, as much notice as possible will be given to parents.

PE

Where possible, PE will take place outdoors and use of equipment should be confined to the sets that have been distributed to class groupings. The PE hall will not be available for use as it will be used as a place of storage of resources for each class to maximise space in the classrooms.

Extra-curricular Activities

The possibility of facilitating extra-curricular activities will be explored. However, it would not be recommended that children from different bubbles would participate in extra-curricular activities at the same time. The staggered finishing times will also make the scheduling of after-school activities problematic. Presently, it is not envisaged that there will be any afterschool clubs operating at least during the first term, but this will be reassessed as the year progresses.

Ratified by the Board of Management – 31st August 2021

Signed:

Principal.

Signed:

Chairperson of Board of Management.

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