

Gaelscoil Dr. Uí Shúilleabháin, An Sciobairín.

Nóta Abhaile / Reopening of school.

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A thuismitheoirí, a chairde,

As we work to reopen the Gaelscoil in such unprecedented times, we would like to assure you that the safety and wellbeing of your children is of the utmost importance to us. We have been working throughout the summer to make sure that we comply with the guidelines set out by the Department of Education so that we can take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and wellbeing of both pupils and staff. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school and will try our best to make it as normal as possible for them. This said, we have had to put new procedures in place. The situation will be monitored closely and you will be advised of any changes we make. It is a learning curve and a new experience for all of us and we would ask for your continued support and patience.

The following is a list of new procedures that we have put in place to make sure that all of us stay safe:

Access to school:

Unfortunately, we will have to restrict access to the school grounds for the moment due to the Departmental guidelines. From now on the school gates will be closed so that we can ensure the safety of all. This means that parents will not have access to the school grounds without an appointment. An appointment can be made by phone, or you can write a note in the school journal.

Morning drop off:

Children are to be dropped off at the school gate where a teacher will meet them and advise them of their meeting points. There will be no admittance of pupils to the school grounds before 09:00am.

NB: To adhere to the Department guidelines, we would ask that parents park in the car park and either remain in their cars or stand next to their cars when dropping their children to school. Under no circumstances are people allowed to congregate at the school gate and we would expect that everyone adheres to the 2m distance guideline.

Afternoon pick up:

Teachers will escort the children to the front of the school and once the parents have been identified in the car park, the child will be allowed to leave. Once again, we would ask that you keep the school gate clear to allow for the exit of the children in a safe manner.

PLEASE NOTE: Any child who is to walk home or to a meeting point other than the school car park, will need a signed note. This note will be available to be signed when you come to pay for the school books on Monday 24th August.

We will **not** be walking to the park on Tuesday's for the moment.

Club iarscoile:

The Club-iarscoile will be available from Monday to Thursday 14:00-16:00. The price is €4.00 per hour for the first child and €3.00 per hour for any subsequent child/children.

We will of course be adhering to the guidelines when organising our space.

Hand hygiene:

We will have both hand sanitizers and soap available in each classroom. When the children come to school, we will go through the necessary steps for hand hygiene. Both hand washing and sanitizing will become part of our school routine.

We would encourage parents to show their children how to wash their hands properly at home before returning to school.

School Uniform:

Full school uniform required as normal.

Foreign Holidays:

If you are going on holiday or abroad, you must inform the school. Anyone who has been on holidays abroad, must self-isolate for 14 days before returning to school.

The school will require a letter from you or your GP to explain any absences. These notes can be written in the school journal or as a hand-written note.

Covid-19:

If your child has any of the following symptoms they should not come to school as per the Department of Education & Skills and HSE guidelines:

- **Temperature over 37.5 degrees Celsius**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties**
- **Loss or change to their sense of smell or taste**

Please keep an eye on the HSE website for updated symptoms.

If your child has any of the above symptoms, please inform the school.

The school will require a letter from you or your GP to explain any absences. These notes can be written in the school journal, or as a hand-written note.

In the event of a suspect Covid-19 case in the school, the parents will be contacted, and the school will follow the guidelines as laid out by the Department of Education & Skills and the HSE.

For further information on the procedures please visit:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/59843-dealing-with-a-suspected-case-of-covid-19/>

Cleaning:

The classrooms will be cleaned each day.

Stationary:

Stationary cannot be shared and we would ask that the students leave these items at school. Each pupil will have a storage box in which to put all of their books and stationary items.

Junior classes - Rang 2:

We would ask that each pupil come to school with **their own** colouring pencils/crayons this year and an eraser and pencil sharpener. All items must be labelled with your child's name. We will provide the following for each pupil:

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paint brush
- Storage box

Rang 3 – Rang 6:

We would ask that each pupil come to school with **their own** -

- Pencils
- Biro – 1 blue or black and 1 red.
- Scissors
- Glue
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Colouring pencils or crayons
- Maths set
- Calculator

All items must be labelled with your child's name.

The **school will provide** individual paint brushes and storage boxes for each pupil.

Book Collection:

Book collection will be similar to the end of year drop off.

- Collection available from 09:00 – 15:00 on the 24th of August 2020.
- Only one car allowed on the school grounds at a time
- One person allowed into the reception area at a time.
- As you will be in close contact with one of our staff members, we would ask that you wear a mask.
- Everyone person that enters the building must sign our log book and use the hand sanitizer provided
- We would ask if possible that you pay online (details are on the booklists given at the end of the year).
- If this is not possible, we would ask that you have the correct amount ready for payment
- All books must be paid in full on or before, 24th of August 2020.

We understand that this is a lot of new information to take in, but the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff have always been our main priorities and will remain so. The staff of the Gaelscoil are really looking forward to welcoming our students back and to meeting all of our páistí, whether for the first time or reacquainting ourselves. Once again, we will make every effort to ensure that their school life will be an enjoyable learning experience and as normal as possible, while adhering to the guidelines from the Department and the HSE.

Aisling Ní Néill

Príomhoide

Joanne Uí Threasaigh

Leas-phríomhoide