



Logistics Plan for the reopening of Scoil Róis

Underlying Principles:

- The school has a responsibility to make every 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 ensure that the school can exercise that duty of care.
- 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 Covid 19 being introduced to our school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- Public Health advice and Guidelines as issued by the Department of Education and Skills in the Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of Primary schools will be adhered to in so far as it is possible. We hope that this will ensure that children will be able to return to school for five days of school each week and for a full school day.
- The co-operation and goodwill of all members of the school community will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

A lot of work is being done to ensure that building is ready for the arrival of pupils and staff. Our classrooms have been decluttered and all excess furniture removed. Our furniture has been laid out appropriately in pods. Relevant signage has been displayed. Sanitisers have been installed at every entrance and exit and outside every classroom. All fabric towels have been removed and replaced with paper towels (biodegradable) which also have a special non touch disposal bin. These are in all our class bathrooms. All soap dispensers have been changed and will now dispense soap that is in keeping with the guidelines as issued to the school.

It would be helpful to remind children how to wash their hands properly and how to sanitise them.

Our cleaning regime has also been intensified to ensure that every possible precaution is taken to minimise the risk of infection.

A special Isolation Room has been set up to deal with any pupil or staff member that becomes unwell.

A pupil or staff member should not attend school if they are unwell.

Any pupil who comes to school and is feeling unwell will be sent home immediately.

Classes in Primary schools will operate as individual bubbles. We will be doing our best to reduce all contact between these bubbles.

Within each bubble will be pods, or smaller groups of 4 to 6 children. These pods will work together and stay together for school activities thereby trying to minimise contact between children even within classrooms. This is especially the case for pupils from 3rd to 6th class where there will be a metre between each pod.

To make sure that classes remain apart and to ensure social distancing, classes will have a staggered arrival at school. Classes must have a teacher present at all times, therefore the school will open at 8.50 am to receive pupils. The teacher will be waiting in the classroom for the children. The children will be guided there by staff members and teachers.

The following is the timetable for morning arrival:

We will be using the main gate and the side gate to access the school. The side gate is at the side of the playground.

We will be using 3 doors for entry into the school; The front door, the door to the front of the school with steps outside it and the door at the rear of the school. If pupils are unsure where these doors are, don't worry, staff members will be there to guide them.

No parents or guardians will be allowed access to the grounds of the school as per Department guidelines.

Social distancing should be adhered to when dropping pupils off at the gates by parents and guardians.

Side Gate:

8.50 am: First Classes (Back Door)

9.00 am: 2nd Classes (Front Steps)

9.10 am: 3rd Classes (Back Door)

9.20 am: 6th Classes (Front Steps)

Main Gate:

8.50 am: Junior Infants (Main Door)

9.00 am: Senior Infants (Main Door)

9.10 am: 5th Classes (Main Door)

9.20 am: 4th Classes (Main Door)

It is very important that children arrive at their allotted time

Children will be given the name of their class teacher for the coming year next week.

Hometime will also be staggered:

Hometime:

1.10 pm: Junior Infants (Main Door)

1.20 pm: Senior Infants (Ms O Donnell) Main Door

1.30 pm: Senior Infants (Ms Corcoran) Main Door

2.10 pm: 1st Classes (Back Door / Side Gate)

2.10 pm: 5th Classes (Main Door / Main Gate)

2.20 pm: 2nd Classes (Front Steps / Side Gate)

2.20 pm: 4th Classes (Main Door / Main Gate)

2.30 pm: 3rd Classes (Back Door/ Side Gate)

2.30 pm: 6th Classes (Front Steps/ Main Gate)

It is very important that someone is there to collect each pupil.

There will be no afterschool activities for the moment. Our priority is to reopen safely and to get all our pupils back to school.

Scallywags will make their own arrangements with families that will be using the service.

Again no parents/guardians will be permitted on the school grounds at hometime.

Our yard times will also be staggered. Our school will be divided into three groups.

These routines will be very different to pupils and parents initially but after a few days they will become the new normal. In order to familiarise pupils with these routines and to help them to settle back to school and to overcome any feelings of anxiety that they be experiencing we will be reopening next week as follows.

Thursday August 27th: We will reopen for classes from 3rd to 6th only

Friday August 28th: We will reopen for classes from Senior Infants to 2nd only.

Monday August 31st: We will be open for all classes from Junior Infants to 6th.

Please Note: Ms O'Donnell and Ms Corcoran will be in touch with parents from their classes next week to invite each pupil and one parent to come in at an allocated time to visit their classroom to help them to transition back to school. This visit will just be for a few minutes but we hope will help with any anxiety.

New Junior Infants parents will also be contacted and invited to come in at an allotted time to visit their classroom with a parent to help with any anxiety. Again it will be a short visit, but we hope it will help.

If you are a new child coming into another class in our school, we will contact you next week.

Other points to note:

Uniform is to be worn as usual. PE tracksuit can be worn more frequently if desired to help with more frequent washing of the uniform. We would ask that children change out of the uniform and school shoes when they go home.

Extra care should be taken not to forget lunches etc. This is to minimise the amount of people coming and going from our school. Forgotten items should be labelled and left in the box outside the front door. Attention can be drawn to them by using the school doorbell and intercom.

No unauthorised access of any kind will be granted to the school building. For any visit which is absolutely necessary a Contact Log must be completed. These visits are by strict appointment only with the Principal.

The toilet inside the main door of the school will not be open for use.

The School Library will remain closed for the moment.

Teachers will be contactable by email. These email addresses will be circulated by teachers when we reopen.

All items belonging to each child should be labelled clearly.

Children will not be allowed to swop or share any items. This includes pencils. Lunches, Pritt sticks etc. It is therefore important that each child has their own.

Two pencil cases will be needed. One to leave at school and one to leave at home.

Children should bring the school books they have purchased to school on the first day. They should have them labelled. These books will be stored by each child in a plastic storage box. Classes from 3rd to 6th are asked to bring this box to school with their books on the first day.

There will be no homework for the first few weeks. This again is to minimise books going between home and school. A routine will be established then by each class.

The Curriculum areas that the school has been asked to focus on upon reopening are as follows:

- Maths
- Irish
- English
- SPHE
- PE

Our approach is to be one where we **SLOW DOWN TO CATCH UP**

The emphasis will be on pupil wellbeing and making sure that each child is ready to move on with new work in a timely manner. While children are resilient they have experienced huge change and we will be taking things very easy when we return.

In the event of a suspected case of Covid 19 strict procedures as laid out in the Response Plan will be followed.

Correct procedures will be followed when it comes to shared equipment in the school.

In the event of a teacher becoming ill, every effort will be made to find a substitute teacher. If a substitute teacher is not available, it may be necessary to leave an individual class at home for the day. This will be as a last resort but it is impossible to predict what our return to school will bring.

No Mobile phones are permitted by pupils at school this year. We cannot collect such personal items from children and therefore they should not be brought to school. If a phone is needed by a child for any essential reason, please contact the principal.

Children should be encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school where possible. We would ask parents to *drop and go* to facilitate the dropping off and collection of children in our new staggered routines. We would hope that the children will be spending more time outdoors when they return to school. This is the healthier option and we hope to give them regular breaks outside in the fresh air. It is important that every child brings a coat to school and that every child comes dressed for Irish weather.

Due to the unpredictability of the current situation, every effort has been made to give clear guidance to parents in this document. However, some of the arrangements detailed here may be changed as the situation evolves over the coming weeks and months. Parents will be kept up to date with any changes via the website before school opens.