



St. Canice Primary School and Nursery Unit

11 Curragh Road

Dungiven

BT47 4SE

Principal: Mr Ciarán Loane

25th August 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians

We hope you and your children have enjoyed a safe Summer holiday. We are really looking forward to welcoming our pupils back to school for the start of term especially our new Y1 pupils.

On Thursday 18th August, the Department of Education issued their Guidance to Educational Settings. Our school has been working on this guidance to try to develop safe school reopening. Take time to read the detailed information contained below.

The new arrangements for the school year are designed to achieve the following outcomes:

- To secure the safe return for all pupils and staff
- To prevent viral spread within the school setting
- To secure consistent, sustained and uninterrupted education for all pupils within the school setting and throughout the entire school year

The key arrangements in place to secure the above outcomes are outlined below:

1. No child should attend school if they have any COVID symptoms.
2. **Only** pupils are permitted to enter the school grounds.
Parents should not enter the school grounds. Only Year 1 and Nursery Parents can enter the school grounds when leaving or collecting their child.
Adults should wear face masks and follow social distancing guidelines.
3. Parents **MUST** remain outside the school building, unless specifically requested to enter or an appointment has been arranged.
4. Classes will enter/exit the school grounds and the school building via different points.
5. Enhanced handwashing and hand sanitation will take place during the school day.
6. Break time and lunchtime play will take place in a designated area for each class.
7. Dinners will be taken in the canteen and lunches will be taken in the classroom.

These protocols are all designed to minimise contamination at every opportunity. These arrangements may change as things develop.

Key Information

- Y1 – Y7 will start school on Wednesday 1st September.
- Class starts at 9.15a.m.
- Each class will work as a class bubble to ensure a safe school start.
- Children should wear their full, clean school uniform to school every day.
- Children need to bring a coat for break time, lunchtime and outdoor learning.
- Children should bring their own school bags.
- Children will be supplied with the necessary stationery.
- Please ensure your child has a healthy break with them each day as well as a bottle of water. Nut products are strictly forbidden due to children with life threatening allergies.
- Lunch boxes should be clearly labelled.
- Children should come to school in PE clothing on days of P.E.

Information about your child's P.E days will be sent home next week.

- Times for all children to wash their hands will be timetabled throughout the day.
- The school canteen is available for free school meals and paid dinners from the 1st September. Cost of £2.60 per day .or £13.00 per week.
- Any money or dinner money should be sent in a sealed plastic bag, with clear labelling of the child's name and what it is for.
- Pupils who need medication during the school day must bring medication to school in a plastic bag. Parents are requested to complete the appropriate administration forms. Forms can be found on the school website in the Parents Area. Once completed these forms should be emailed to the School Office.

We will not administer medication to your child until we have received the completed form.

School Holidays 2021 - 2022

The school holiday calendar can be accessed via the school website in the Parents section.

Breakfast Club

“Although the use of formal bubbles is no longer required in schools, the need for schools to continue to support effective contact tracing means that schools are asked to maintain a cautious and measured approach that still seeks to maximise the time where pupils are within a consistent group of pupils.”

Due to this guidance from DENI, we are unable to facilitate a breakfast club starting immediately. This will be under review and will be at the forefront of consideration in light of risk assessments and further guidance.

Arriving to School

Children are asked to arrive at school between 9.00- 9.15a.m.

There will be no early drop-off.

All entrance doors will be closed at 9.15a.m. to ensure the safety of our pupils and staff.

If you arrive late with your child, you and your child should report to the Main Front door, press the buzzer and wait until a member of staff arrives.

There will be GATE entrance and entrance/exit doors for all classes.

These entrance/exit doors will be used for drop-off and collection every day.

Children should go straight to their class through the allocated entrance which are as follows:

	Class	Door to Enter School
GATE 1	Y1 Mrs Kelly	Y1 Side door
	Y1 Mrs Gribbin	Y1 Side door
	Y2 Mrs Barry	Assembly Hall door
	Y2 Mrs Martin	Assembly Hall door
GATE 2	Y3 Mrs Mc Illvenny	Main Front door
	Y3 Mrs Mc Gill	Main Front door
	Y6 Mr Mc Cutcheon	Main Front door
	Y7 Miss Barry	Main Front door
GATE 3	Y4 Mrs Bateson	White Back door
	Y5 Mrs Polley	White Back door
	Y6 Mrs O Kane	White Back door
	Y7 Mr Tracey	White Back door

Home times

Year 1 Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd September 12 noon

Week beginning Monday 6th September: 12 noon

Year 1 children should be picked up from school at 12 noon. Pupils entitled to free meals can have dinner. No lunch required for non-free meal pupils.

Week beginning 13th September 2p.m.

To help settle our new P1s into school, one parent can walk their children directly to the P1 entrance door. The child will be met by staff and immediately directed to hand washing facilities.

Year 2 Children should be picked up at 2p.m. daily.

Year 3 Children should be picked up at 2p.m. daily for the month of September. From Monday 4th October pupils will be going Home at 2.50p.m.

Year 4 & Year 5 Daily @ 2.50p.m.

Year 6 & Year 7 Daily @ 3.00p.m

Pupils in Y6 or Y7 who have siblings in Y4 or Y5, may go home at 2.50p.m. If such an arrangement is required, please contact the school office.

School Transport School buses and taxis will be running as normal beginning on Wednesday 1st September. More information about applying for school transport is through this link - <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/home-to-school-transport/how-to-apply-for-transport-assistance-for-my-child>

All pupils of all ages should wear a face covering on all buses, trains or taxis for the journey to school where it is appropriate for them to do so and they are able to handle them as directed.

Free School Meals If you need to find out if you are eligible for a grant for school uniform, please use this link for more information. <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants/apply-for-free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

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DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD OR ANYONE YOU LIVE WITH HAS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- A loss of or change in sense of smell or taste. If your child or anyone in your household has any of the symptoms above, you should get a test for Covid-19.
- If a child displays symptoms of Covid19 at school, we will contact their parents/ carers immediately to come and collect them.
- The school will support children and their families at all times.

As a school we are working very hard to keep up to date on the COVID situation which is continually changing and we appreciate your patience and support on this.

Our school restart plans will be closely monitored and informed by appropriate risk assessments, the individual context of our school and official guidance.

Infection rates are still very high in our local community.

DENI has stipulated that schools should take a cautious and measured approach to school restart.

The measures that we have put in place are for everyone's protection.

Stay Safe

Ciarán Loane
Principal