

14/08/2020

A Thuismitheoirí, a Chairde,

Beatha agus sláinte chugaibh go léir!

I hope that this message finds you all well and that everyone is looking forward to returning to school.

Some things will be different when we return but we want to ensure that things will be as safe as possible for all in the Gaelscoil community. A huge amount of preparatory work has been going on over the past few weeks and the following arrangements have been made, in conjunction with the Board of Management.

- Please encourage children to walk or cycle to school when possible.
- Parents are to come no further than the school gate without a prior appointment (with the exception of Naíonáin Mhóra for the first two days, who may be accompanied to the door nearest their seomra – the main door for Seomra 4, the door closest to the playground for Seomra 5 & Seomra 6). Separate arrangements are in place for Naíonáin Bheaga, see below.
- School uniforms will be worn. Múinteoirí will, where possible, timetable P.E. lessons so that there is a day between sports classes and children will be able to alternate between formal and sports uniform, for the most part. When it is not possible to wash the uniform before next wearing it, using the steam setting on an iron or a clothes steamer could help.
- We are aware that the formal brown uniform may be in short supply at present, children may wear the éide spóirt if supplies have not come in by the time to return to school. The green geansaí spóirt is available from Oifig na Gaelscoile from Monday next. These cost €26 and we would appreciate if you could have the correct change please as we are all trying to avoid handling money at present.
- We ask that all children have a separate pencil case for school and home. Please put plastic covers on copies - these should be regularly wiped down with disinfectant at home.
- Lunchboxes, drinks bottles etc. should be washed well at home every day.
- All staff will wear face coverings but there is no requirement for children to do so.
- Classrooms are arranged according to DES Covid 19 guidelines.
- Hand sanitiser will be available in every classroom and children from Rang 2 upwards may bring personal hand sanitiser also if desired. Please ensure that your child knows how to use it safely and appropriately, and please revise good hand washing and coughing/sneezing etiquette with all children.
- We have arranged staggered lunch breaks to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any time.
- **NB Please ensure that contact details are kept up to date and that there will be someone available to collect your child immediately if necessary.**
- If your child shows any sign of illness or if they have been identified as a contact of a confirmed Covid 19 case, it is vitally important that they are kept at home until fully recovered. Please contact your GP if you have any concerns.
- Extra cleaning procedures have been put in place for the school and regular disinfecting will take place.
- Social distancing is to be observed while waiting at the gates for children at dismissal time. Please leave the school vicinity as soon as you have collected your child.

- For children who are walking/cycling home independently, please remind them regularly of the importance of leaving the school vicinity immediately and not to congregate with others.
- Older children may collect siblings from the younger child's external door, rather than from their classroom doors.
- If your child has been in any of the countries that is not on the government's green list, they cannot return to school within 14 days of returning.
- All Afterschool Activities have been suspended for the foreseeable future and there will be no external coaches coming to the Gaelscoil for the moment.
- Opening and dismissal times will be staggered to reduce numbers arriving and leaving at the same time. The school gate will open at 8.40am. Classes will be divided into two groups.

The following classes are to arrive between 8.40am - 8.50am

Grúpa A

Naíonáin Mhóra S.4 An M. Emma

Naíonáin Mhóra S.6 An M. Jill

Rang 1 **S.8 An M. Nóirín**

Rang 2 **S.22 An M. Clár**

Rang 3 **S.10 An M. Art**

Rang 4 **S. 12 An M. Micheál**

Rang 5 **S.14 An M. Eithne**

Rang 6 **S.16 An M. Cian**

These classes are to be collected at 2.20pm with the exception of Naíonáin Mhóra who will be going home at 1.30pm every day.

The following classes are to arrive between 8.50am-9.00am

Grúpa B

Naíonáin Mhóra S.5 An M. Aisling/An M. Andrea

Rang 1 **S.7 An M. Nell**

Rang 2 **S.21 An M. Brian**

Rang 3 **S.9 An M. Aoife**

Rang 4 **S.11 An MaryRose**

Rang 5 **S.13 An M. Brian**

Rang 6 **S.15 An M. Majella**

These classes are to be collected at 2.30pm.

If you have children in both groups, feel free to choose the ten minute slot which best suits your family i.e. 8.40 and 2.20 or 8.50 and 2.30

We are very excited to welcome our new Naíonáin Bheaga/ Junior infants and look forward to seeing them when they come to meet their múinteoirí in the Gaelscoil on Monday next. For the first two school days (Thursday and Friday) they may be accompanied to their seomra by their parent/guardian between 9.00am - 9.30 am. From Monday 31st August, 8.50am will be their starting time.

To help these buachaillí agus cailíní settle in they will have a shorter day finishing at 12 noon until Friday September 4th. From Monday 7th, they will be going home at 1.30pm.

Further details will be issued by the Department of Education and Skills over the next couple of weeks, I will keep you informed as information comes to us.

I am aware that there is lots of information here for everyone but with co-operation and close adherence to the DES Covid 19 guidelines from all, we hope to have a safe and happy school year in the Gaelscoil.

Le meas,

An Múinteoir Aingeal (Príomhoide)