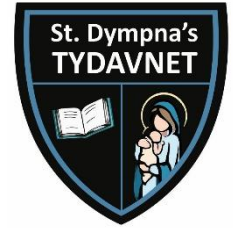


St. Dymphna's National School

Tydavnet, Co. Monaghan.



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 yard is split into areas with each bubble having a designated area for gathering in the morning, break times, lunch times and finishing times.
- Bubbles will be constituted of Junior Infants, Senior Infants and 1st Class, 2nd and 3rd Class and 4th to 6th Class
- The day will include 2 x 20-minute breaks
- Within each class from 3rd to 6th, the children will be further divided into pods, with a minimum distance of 1 metre being maintained between pods
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry and exit points and in all class and support rooms

Entrance & Exit Points for Specific Classes

- Each class bubble will enter and exit the school through the external classroom doors at the rear of the school

Arrival at school

- We ask that all parents and guardians that on dropping off their child/ren they return promptly to their car and exit the car park safely. Bus children at 9.10AM Surnames A-K at 9.15AM Surnames L-N at 9.20AM Surnames O-Z at 9.25AM
- 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 follow the one way system and line up at their designated point with social distancing observed.
- The class teacher will invite the children to enter the building via their designated entrance point at the appropriate time.
- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the school grounds or building.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by email or by phoning the school office.

End of School Day

- We ask that all parents and guardians park in the lined car park spaces and do not use the 'drop off' zone. This is to allow for social distancing during collection times.
- We ask that all parents/guardians line up at the distanced markings on the footpath on the left-hand side of the gate.
- All children must be collected at the gate by a parent/guardian. We ask that on receiving your child/ren you return promptly to your car and exit the car park safely.
- It is recommended that children travel with family members only. Children travelling by bus should adhere to the guidelines provided by the Department of Transport.
- Collection times will be as follows
Junior Infants: 1.55PM
Senior Infants: 2.00PM
If you have a child in both Junior and Senior Infants, we ask that you collect them at 2.00PM.
1st -6th Class: The dismissal time for families with more than one child or those who travel on the school bus will be 2.50PM. The dismissal time for families with one child will be 3.00PM.

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 office or use the intercom at the front door of the school to alert the office that they have arrived
- The child will be brought from their class to the adult by a member of staff
- The adult who is collecting will be asked to sign the child out
- 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 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, if one is available. 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 abroad and must self-isolate for a period of 14 days
- 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) will suggest 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

- In so far as possible, it is requested that children from 1st to 6th Class will bring their own pens, pencils, colours, rubbers, etc., to school in their own easily cleaned pencil case to avoid the sharing of equipment. This equipment will remain in school.
- It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.
- We ask that children only bring their coat, lunch box and drink bottle to school with them daily. School bags are not permitted at the present time.

Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in Infant 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.

Yards

Each classroom bubble will have access to the yard during their allotted break times as follows

Junior Infants- Rear area of play yard

Senior Infants/1st Class- Rear area of play yard

2nd/3rd Class- Pitch area (Tuesday, Thursday) Court area (Monday, Wednesday & Friday)

4th/5th/6th Class- Pitch area (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) Court area (Tuesday, Thursday)

Yard will be supervised by class teachers

Special Educational Teaching

The provision of support will be organised to ensure our support teacher 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 room will be wiped clean in between different groups attending

PPE

Face coverings will be worn by staff in the corridors, school office and when unable to maintain a social distance of 2metres from either staff or children.

Masks and visors will be provided to staff members.

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, the SET teacher may be asked to cover the class. If cover is unavailable, 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 should take place outdoors and use of equipment should be confined to the sets that have been distributed to class groupings.

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. Further updates will be provided in September.