



TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS

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ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL,  
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**St. Anne's Back to School  
Information Plan  
26<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Note: School resumes Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August and  
will finish at 2pm for 2 weeks.**

## St. Anne's COVID 19 Back to School Information Statement

St. Anne's School is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our staff and a safe learning environment for all our pupils. To ensure that, we have developed the following St. Anne's Back to School Information Plan. Parental responsibility will be vital in ensuring all the measures we have put in place for our children are adhered to. The BOM and all school staff are responsible for the implementation of this plan and a combined effort will help contain the spread of the virus. We will continue to monitor our COVID-19 response and amend this plan in consultation with our staff.

- **Public Health advice issued by the HSE and Gov.ie:** Our Lead Worker Representatives and School Management will share known information with staff, parents/guardians and pupils by providing updated information on Covid-19 virus, including prevention and control efforts at school. Teachers will be sure to address pupil's questions and concerns including through the development of child-friendly materials and resources.
- **Hand-Washing Procedures:** Signage and Posters will be displayed in each classroom, toilet facility, staff room & Entrance Hall. Techniques will be practised at a greater frequency - on arrival, after each activity, before and after eating, at toileting times and after any outdoor activity.
- **Essential hygiene and respiratory etiquette:** Information displayed in each classroom and toilet facility, staff room & Social Area. All efforts will be made to make pupils aware of, and support, in proper hygiene procedures regarding hand washing and etiquette related to physical distancing. Sanitization units stationed outside classrooms and sanitizer available within each classroom.

PPE is not required to be worn within the school facility according to current occupational and public health guidance. However, PPE is available to all staff and will need to be used occasionally or constantly due to the nature of certain work activities such as performing intimate care needs or dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19 is identified.

- **Physical distancing as appropriate in line with the guidance and direction of the Department of Education and Skills:** St. Anne's have re-configured all classrooms to maximise physical distancing. Each class will be referred to as a Class Bubbles and we will ensure that there is little contact as possible between children in different bubbles in efforts to promote safe distancing.

Daily arrival and departure transportation will operate at 2 points. To promote safe distancing and reduce congestion, staff will escort pupils to and from their buses via one-way system.

All internal doors, where practical, to be left open, to minimise touching of common areas. External doors to be opened by staff where possible. Each class bubble will enter and exit designated areas during school hours.

- **Contacting St. Anne's:** A strict contact log system will be operated by the Management. Arrangements for necessary visitors such as parents/guardians/support services will be restricted to essential purposes and must contact the school Secretary/Principal to obtain prior approval.
- **Induction / Training:** All staff will engage with Induction Training as per national guidelines, prior to school reopening. This information will be identified to staff when received from DES. Return to Work questionnaire must be completed at least 3 days prior to returning to school.

All staff will consult and discuss new school systems prior to reopening. Evaluation and assessing will be ongoing.

- **School Culture:** While the purpose of this document is to focus on Health and Safety, we must also note that Covid-19 will have a significant impact on school culture. Children and staff interactions are very limited by all the measures in this document. We will review what measures we can take to maintain a happy and positive atmosphere in the school among staff and pupils.

In the first term greater attention to areas such as SPHE, PE, Language & Mathematics. Gradually as we adjust and build a comprehensive picture of where pupils are in their learning, we can work towards more typical curriculum plans. Children attending support settings will continue and targets will be reviewed through school/home communication.

Every opportunity will be exercised to create a fulfilled teaching and learning opportunities for all, ensuring a fun, positive and holistic approach. Differentiated lessons will continue to involve one to one lessons, power-points, social stories, visuals representations, tactile and varied resources exploration, interactive whiteboard learning activities, outdoor learning etc.

- **Cleaning:** A whole school Deep Clean has taken place during the holidays. A cleaning contract company has been employed and will provide daily cleaning as per Department of Education & Skills protocol for school guidelines. Each classroom is equipped with a cleaning supply baskets for general activity use.
- **Health and Safety:** Please visit our website to view our Safety Statement and Covid-19 Policy. The health and safety of our whole school community is paramount. We would remind parents that, where children are displaying colds, coughs, flu like symptoms or any general un-wellness they should not be sent to school. If unsure of your child's return to school due to any pre-existing medical conditions or if you have any concerns, please seek medical advice prior to returning. Staff must not attend school if they display any symptoms.
- **In the event of someone showing symptoms of COVID-19 while at school:** The individual will be accompanied via the isolation route to the isolation area - 'Our Shared Area' - PPE will be advised for person showing symptoms and used by supervisor. Isolation procedures will be followed, see below. School Nurse and LWR will be informed. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately. School management will arrange pupil/staff to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible and advice given to inform their GP of the symptoms. If they cannot immediately go home, School Management will contact their GP and follow the guidelines in dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19. **Please see below.**

Signed: Mrs Evelyn Hennessy

**Chairperson**

Anne Comerford

**Principal**

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2020