



Gaelscoil Éirne

Fearann an Bhaile, Béal Átha Seanaidh, Co.Dhún na nGall.F94 KP62

R-phost gaelscoileirne@gmail.com Fón: 071 98 22780

www.gaelscoileirne.ie

Gaelscoil Éirne – Plan for reopening the school

We are really looking forward to welcoming our children back to school and will be doing all that we can to ensure that the return to school is a safe and enjoyable one for both the children and school staff.

We have been working on our plan for the safe re-opening of our school over the last couple of weeks, in line with current guidance and recommendations from the Department of Education and Skills.

We wish to inform parents of the following:

School and Classroom Plan

- All children will be due to return to school and classes will operate within a bubble system
- The school is split into 2 bubbles; Rang Múinteoir Kerrie (Infants- 2nd Class) and Rang Múinteoir Conchubhar (3rd- 6th Class)
- 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 where possible.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms.
- Children will be asked to sanitise their hands each time they enter and exit a classroom.
- Children may bring their own sanitiser to school, with their name clearly labelled on it.
- Children will not be required to wear a mask/visor. All teachers and SNA's will wear a mask/visor when necessary.
- Children will not share/swap books or resources with those outside of their pod.
- Each child's books and resources will be stored in a designated area in the classroom.
- Children will not share pencils/colours/scissors/ glue etc. All items must be individually labelled.
- This year we would like children to have their own **twistables, scissors and pritstick**. Please label each item clearly.
- After the first day, please only bring along a lunch box and water bottle.

**Please note: Children are asked to have their own pencil case and resources at home as children's pencils etc. will stay in school.

School Yard Plan:

- The school day will include the normal break/lunchtimes.
- There will be two designated playgrounds for each bubble; Rang M. Kerrie will use the front yard and Rang M. Conchubhar will use the back schoolyard.
- Arrangements have been made for each “bubble” to play safely during yard time, and to enter/exit the building safely.

Entrance & Exit Points for Specific Classes

Rang M. Kerrie (Infants -2nd Class)

- Entry and exit through classroom door (not the main entrance)

Rang M. Conchubhar (3rd -6th Class)

- Entry and exit through classroom door at the back of the school.

Entering and exiting the school building:

- A teacher and /or Special Needs Assistant will invite the children to enter the building via their designated entrance point at the appropriate time each morning.
- If it is wet children will be asked to go straight to their classrooms via the designated entry point.
- Children will sanitise their hands on entering the school building. Parents need to ensure that their child’s hands are free in order to sanitise hands. (Please consider how schoolbags will be held).
- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building.
- We ask parents to make an appointment with the office before entering the school building. We ask parents to wear masks, adhere to social distancing when entering the school.
- Visitors must fill in our sign in/sign out log.
- Anne’s hours are. 9:00am – 1:00pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Anne will be in office every day for first three weeks from 9:00am-1:00pm.

Morning Drop Off

- On reopening day, Wednesday 26th August, all class teachers will be present at the school gate to greet children and instruct them on new protocols for entering and exiting the school building.
- There will be a drop off time of 9:00am each morning. While teachers will be present on the school grounds prior to this time to open the school and classrooms,

children may not begin to enter the school grounds until M. Conchubhar or M. Kerrie are stationed at the school gate at 9.00am to monitor the safe arrival of children.

After School Collection

- Junior Infants will exit the school at 1:50 each day after the first two weeks.
 - The children will line up at their designated exit door and the class teacher will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them.
 - Parents are asked to adhere to social distancing at the school gate.
- Collection times for all other classes will be
 - 2:45: Rang M. Kerrie (1st Class and 2nd Class)
 - 2:50: Rang M. Conchubhar (3rd - 6th)
 - The children will line up again at their designated exit door and the class teacher will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them.
 - Again we ask parents to stay at your car until the collection time and to adhere to social distancing at the school gate.
- Please ensure you arrive on time and are ready to collect your child/children at these times.

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, please phone the office to alert the school that they have arrived or knock on the classroom door.
- The child will be brought from their class to the adult by a member of staff

Visiting the school:

- No adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so.
- If you need to drop a forgotten item to the school during the day, e.g. lunch/coat, please leave item in a bag (with child's name on the bag) at the front door or outside the classroom door.
- If you have an appointment or need to make a payment in the office we ask that parents use the main entrance of the school building. Please sanitise hands on entering and use a face covering. Each visitor will have to sign the contact log book on entering the building.

If Your Child Is Feeling Unwell

- If your child becomes unwell during the school day, you will be contacted immediately. Your child will be supervised at the designated sick bay area until they are collected.
- All parents are required to provide the school with an emergency contact of someone who can collect your child promptly if the school cannot reach you.
- Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell or displaying COVID 19 symptoms, which are high temperature, cough, breathing difficulties, sudden loss of sense of smell or taste and flu-like symptoms. If your child is unwell but a doctor deems them fit to attend school, a letter from the doctor stating this will be required.

Homework

- There will be no homework for the month of September. This will be reviewed after the first month and parents will be informed.

Cleaning:

- The cleaning arrangements for the school have been updated to ensure all communal contact points within the building are cleaned daily.

We will keep all parents informed on any updates as per HSE guidelines.