



St. Patrick's National School

COVID-19 Risk Template – 1st & 2nd Classes

(List identifies COVID-19 as the hazard and outlines control measures required to deal with this risk)

Covid-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a virus called Coronavirus. Symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal.

Hazards	Who is at risk?	Controls	Additional Controls
Spread of Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff • Children • Parent / Visitors to your premises • Cleaners • Contractors • Anyone else who physically comes in contact with you in relation to your business 	<p>Hand Hygiene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing facilities with soap and hot water in place. • Stringent hand washing taking place. • See hand washing guidance. • Drying of hands with disposable paper towels. <p>https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/how-to-wash-your-hands.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hand-washing rota pod by pod to reduce over-crowding at sinks and cross-contamination • Staff may wish to protect the skin by applying emollient cream regularly. Children may wish to bring their own creams which is suitable for their individual skin. • Children to bring own hand sanitiser. • Gel sanitisers in any area where washing facilities not readily available and in each classroom • Children will wash/sanitise their hands before eating and after PE. <p>Classroom layout as per guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Distancing – tables will be laid out as outlined by the Department of Education <p>https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a0bff-reopening-our-primary-and-special-schools/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and children to be reminded on a regular basis to wash their hands for 20 seconds with water and soap and the importance of proper drying with disposable towels. Also reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in their elbow. Children to bring in their own tissues, place them in a bag after use to discard at home daily, and sanitise hands after use. • To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) reminding everyone of the public health advice - https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/protect-yourself-and-others.html • Posters, leaflets and other materials are available for display. https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources/ • Encourage staff to report any problems and carry out skin checks as part of a skin surveillance programme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will be allocated to a pod which they will stay in throughout the school year whilst under COVID-19 restrictions. <p><u>Wearing of Gloves</u></p> <p>When dealing with matters of First aid wearing gloves, masks and aprons/visors if required.</p> <p><u>PPE</u></p> <p>Children and teachers will follow guidelines laid out by the Department of Education. Masks and/or visors must be worn by staff if closer than 2m and may be worn by or children in they opt to do so.</p> <p><u>Health Check Questionnaire</u></p> <p>Prior to the start of school, parents and teachers will complete Return to Work and Health Check Questionnaire.</p> <p><u>Entering Buildings</u></p> <p>Children will go straight into their classrooms. Principal, Learning support teachers and SNAs will monitor this where possible. Doors will need to be propped open for entry and to remain open, and windows on either side of the classroom to remain open as much as possible to assist through ventilation to classrooms.</p> <p><u>Exiting Buildings</u></p> <p>1st class will leave the school through the gate at the side exit (by Health Centre) at 1:55pm.</p> <p>2nd Class will leave through the main gate entrance at 1.55pm.</p> <p>Social distancing to be maintained during exit</p> <p>Names on children’s belongings so that items don’t get mixed up or misplaced.</p> <p><u>Schoolbags</u></p> <p>- no school bags are allowed. Children will only need to bring in a lunch bag (see below).</p> <p>Their pencil cases will be left in their box (see below).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The children will remain in their pods. Parents will complete a questionnaire at the beginning of school to confirm that their child is well and has not, to the best of their knowledge, come into contact with covid-19 Parents will be asked to inform the school if there is any change in the condition of their child. Children to be reminded on a daily basis of the importance of social distancing both in the school and outside of it. – Staff check to ensure this is adhered to. 1m markings on playground at each gate to assist lining up Children will walk out to meet their parents. If parents are collecting at the gate they will be asked to stand on the 2m markings that have been painted outside the gate.
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	<p><u>Boxes</u> – a box per child will be provided and placed under their chair to store their individual books/resources/pencil case/lunch etc.</p> <p><u>Clothes</u> Children wear shoes and clothes that they can manage independently (e.g. elastic trousers, velcro shoes).</p> <p><u>Homework</u> Homework books will remain at home. Children must upload pictures of their Homework on ClassDojo or Seesaw.</p> <p><u>Corrections</u> Teachers collect books on Friday, where appropriate, to quarantine over the weekend before marking Monday. Where work must be marked in person by the teacher, rotating copies to be used for each consecutive week.</p> <p><u>Classroom library books</u> Each child may have 2/3 books for the week from the class library in their box (if instructed by the teacher) and on Friday they would be removed and held over the weekend so they could have new books for the following week.</p> <p><u>Lunch Boxes</u> Children will only need to bring in a lunch bag (disposable where possible) each day that can fit in their box. Children having lunches that they can open and manage themselves without any assistance. Lunch leftovers to be taken home at the end of each day for disposal.</p> <p><u>Eating/Break Times</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to eating children will wash their hands pod by pod to avoid over-crowding and cross-contamination by sinks – door stops to be used in bathrooms so that these sinks can be used. Teacher/SNA to pre tear off hand towels that can be used and binned. Paper towel bins will be located outside the toilet and door handles will be wiped down regularly. • Children will have to remain seated at their desks for the entirety of eating lunches. • If weather is good and children are eating outside, children will sanitise rather than wash hands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will source and label boxes. • Pencil cases and books kept in school and of a wipeable material. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes will no longer be sent home from school in children’s journals– use Aladdin. Parents can contact teachers via Aladdin, school email address, Seesaw or ClassDojo. • Teachers will use their laptops to correct homework and classwork if necessary. Work can be photographed within the classroom.
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- Staggered break times will be necessary to enable children to remain in their pods and maintain social distancing.

Readers

- reading groups assigned a reader for a week , which is brought back in on Friday, put in a box over the weekend and given to next group on Monday. Children who want to read more can borrow an extra library book which is quarantined for min 3 days on return, wiped down and issued weekly after 72 hours quarantine

Shared equipment – items can be shared within in pods where applicable but where possible, children will have individual materials/equipment. All shared items will be disinfected/quarantined before use by another pod. Children to keep their own materials (pencils etc. in their box)

- Removal of soft toys, cushions, carpets from the classroom area. These materials to be stored away.

Cleaning

Frequently cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly particularly in areas of high use such as door/window handles, light switches, blinds, hand-towel dispensers, sanitiser dispensers, desks and chairs using appropriate cleaning products and methods.

Well-Being

The Well Being and readjusting to school will be the primary focus of teachers going back to school, emphasis will be on this as opposed to academics at the beginning of term. Allow the children opportunities to discuss their feeling/ideas and time spent at home. Each classroom should have a class plant or worry tree to promote a positive classroom environment.

Symptoms of Covid-19

- If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a high temperature, they will be taken to the isolation room and procedures laid out by the Department of Education will be followed.
- If advised that a teach, child or parent or connected member of public has developed Covid-19 and were recently on our premises School Management will contact the HSE to discuss the case, identify people who have been in contact with them and will take advice on any actions or precautions that should be taken.

Sick children; vomit and toileting procedures

- Equipment and all classroom areas will be wiped down regularly but more thoroughly on Friday afternoons.

- Checks will be carried out by staff to ensure that the necessary procedures are being followed and records kept at check times.

- Teachers and SNAs to clean and disinfect high use items on a regular daily basis.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a child gets sick, staff will wear mask, visor, apron and gloves. Parents will be called immediately to collect and children will wait in the Isolation Room.• If a child wets or soils themselves, staff will not assist with changing.• Staff to ask child to put their wet clothes in a bag and change themselves. Where this is not possible, parents will be called.• All surfaces, door handles, etc. will be wiped down again. A small box of writing materials, books, toys will be kept in the isolation room. After use items will be thoroughly sterilised, or discarded, and the box left for 72 hours before re-use. A second box will be available to place in the isolation room if required.	
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Risk Assessment carried out by: _____

Date: / /