

Dear Parent/Carer

When the children return to school we will be implementing a 'Protective Bubble' approach to the school day. Each class will operate independently from other classes, there will not be opportunities for the children to mix with children and adults from another bubble. To enable us to achieve this, there will be different start of day; break; dinner and end of day times for the bubbles. The table below demonstrates the arrangements for each school day.

We understand that this will cause some inconvenience and would be very grateful for your understanding and support. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic there have been many questions regarding all aspects of how we will live for the foreseeable future. School is no different. To help answer some of your questions we have included a 'Frequently asked Question' section below.

Please note that on the 1st September your child may be starting at a slightly different time from that shown in the table, please see table 2 for details. This arrangement will be in place only for the 1st September. From the 2nd September onwards, the children enter school and immediately walk to their classrooms.

Unfortunately, parents will not be able to enter the school grounds. It will be important that some children who understandably may be anxious are prepared for this.

Yours sincerely

Feargal Magee

TABLE 1	Entrance to playground	Start time	Gate entrance	Break time	Playground	Lunch in classrooms	End of day	Exit gates
Nursery NL		8.50am	Nursery			12.15pm	1.00pm	Nursery
Nursery MC		8.50am	Nursery			12.15pm	1.00pm	Nursery
Primary 1 DR	8.40am	8.45am	Front large	9.50am	1	12.10pm-12.55pm	1.45pm	Front large
Primary 1 LC	8.40am	8.45am	Front small	9.50am	2	12.10pm-12.55pm	1.45pm	Front small
Primary 2 JH	8.50am	8.55am	Front large	10.05am	1	12.20pm-1.05pm	1.55pm	Front large
Primary 2 LC	8.50am	8.55am	Front small	10.05am	2	12.20pm-1.05pm	1.55pm	Front small
Primary 3 NC	8.40am	8.45am	Rear Gate 1	10.20am	1	12.25pm-1.10pm	1.55pm	Rear 1
Primary 3 MC	8.40am	8.45am	Rear Gate 2	10.20am	2	12.25pm-1.10pm	1.55pm	Rear 2
Primary 4 DH	9.00am	9.05am	Front large	10.35am	1	12.35pm	2.55pm	Front large
Primary 4 LMcf	9.00am	9.05am	Front small	10.35am	2	12.35pm	2.55pm	Front small
Primary 5 KP	8.50am	8.55am	Front large	10.50am	1	12.40pm	2.55pm	Rear 1
Primary 5 DG	8.50am	8.55am	Rear Gate 1	10.50am	2	12.40pm	2.55pm	Rear 2
Primary 6 AM	9.05am	9.15am	Front large	11.05am	1	12.45pm	3.05pm	Front large
Primary 6 BMcC	9.05am	9.15am	Front small	11.05am	2	12.45pm	3.05pm	Front small
Primary 7 NMck	9.10am	9.15am	Rear Gate 1	10.45am	P7 area	12.45pm	3.05pm	Rear 1
Primary 7 NR	9.10am	9.15am	Rear Gate 2	11.00am	P7 area	12.45pm	3.05pm	Rear 2

TABLE 2: 1st September – all children		
	Entrance to playground	Gate entrance
Primary 1 DR	8.55am	Front large
Primary 1 LC	8.55am	Front small
Primary 2 JH	8.40am	Front large
Primary 2 LC	8.40am	Front small
Primary 3 NC	8.40am	Rear Gate 1
Primary 3 MC	8.40am	Rear Gate 2
Primary 4 DH	9.00am	Front large
Primary 4 LMcf	9.00am	Front small
Primary 5 KP	9.10am	Front large
Primary 5 DG	9.00am	Rear Gate 1
Primary 6 AM	9.15am	Front large
Primary 6 BMcC	9.15am	Front small
Primary 7 NMcK	9.10am	Rear Gate 1
Primary 7 NR	9.10am	Rear Gate 2

FAQs

What additional hygiene precautions will be in place?

- *Hand sanitising upon arrival at school*
- *Regular hand sanitising throughout the school day*
- *Regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces throughout the school*
- *Increased use of signage*
- *Opening of windows and doors to increase natural ventilation and reduce contact with doors*
- *Encouraging children to develop understanding of personal hygiene, e.g. not touching face etc.*

Will the children and adults be able to achieve the required social distancing?

All classes will exist within a 'protective bubble'. Children from your child's class will not have an opportunity within the school environment to mix with children from other classes. Every effort will be made to avoid interaction between bubbles and to ensure social distancing is considered within each bubble. Desks will be arranged so that children are spaced at a one metre distance from each other while sitting at desks.

Will the children need to take school bags to school?

Children will not take school bags to school. Items from home (toys, gadgets) cannot be taken into school. On the first day of term, we would like your child to bring a small pencil case containing items identified by the class teacher on SeeSaw. This pencil case will remain in school and will be used only by your child.

How will homework be given and completed?

When school reopens we will provide information on how homework, including home reading will be delivered.

I have children in different year groups starting at different times, what should I do?

Your children should enter at the entrance point and time of your youngest child's start time. Each of your children will go straight to their classroom and wait for the rest of the class to arrive.

I have children in different year groups finishing school at different times, what should I do?

To avoid disruption to the classes we would need all children to complete their school day at the identified times. This may mean that you will need to wait for each child to finish. Parents will not be permitted to enter the school grounds at the end of the day. All the children will be taken to the identified gate exit to be handed over to parent/carer. To avoid congestion/crowding we would ask that only one parent/carer would come to collect a child and that they would follow strict social distancing at all times. School staff cannot police the social distancing of adults and children outside of the school premises. It is each person responsibility to follow the guidance.

Are there any changes to the school uniform?

The school uniform will remain the same. We have relaxed the requirement to wear a school tie. Until further notice it would be useful for children to wear polo shirts. Your child's teacher will advise in early September on the arrangements for PE.

Will school meals be available?

At present we understand that school meals will be available for all children in receipt of the free school meal entitlement and for other children who would normally pay for a school meal. At this time, we not been provided with a meals menu. We will advise you before you of arrangements before the start of term.

What will I do if I need to speak to my child's teacher?

Teachers can be contacted using SeeSaw or by contacting the school to arrange a time for a telephone appointment.

If my child is unwell, what do I do?

If your child is unwell, you must keep your child at home. If your child or any member of your family has COVID 19 type symptoms you must advise the school.

If a pupil from my child's class becomes unwell, what will happen?

Parents will be contacted if a child is unwell. If the child has COVID-19 type symptoms they will be isolated in a room away from the rest of the class, their parents will be contacted and advised to seek a COVID-19 test. All other parents will then be contacted. All other members of the same protective bubble as a person with symptoms or who tests positive for COVI-19 will have to self-isolate for the required 14 days. They can return to school when they have completed the necessary period of isolation or have received a test that has returned a negative result. In the case of a positive test occurring within one of the bubbles all other contacts within the same protective

bubble will have to self-isolate for the required 14 day period. They can return to school when they have completed the necessary period of isolation. (Based on current Department of Education advice, 19 June 2020 and may be subject to change)