

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I sincerely hope you have all enjoyed the Summer break. This email is to inform you of details regarding your child's return to school next Monday 30th of August. The information relates to;

- 1) Drop Off and Collection Times and Procedures
- 2) Covid 19 Testing Protocols
- 3) Returning from Abroad
- 4) Road Works on Griffith Avenue
- 5) Rainy Day Procedures
- 6) Return to School Forms
- 7) Arrangements for School bags/Milk 21-22

1) Drop Off and Collection Times and Procedures

Please ensure you wear a mask and social distance, avoiding congregation at all times. The one way system for drop off and class point specific to your child's class will be shared in our further correspondence to you this Friday.

Morning Drop Off: First Class: 9:00
Senior Infants: 9:05
Junior Infants: 9:10
Afternoon Collection: Junior Infants : 1:40
Senior Infants: 1:50
First Class : 2:00

Information Specific to Junior Infants:

The Junior Infant children will be invited in to meet their teacher and become accustomed to their class room setting on Monday 30th August. They will begin two weeks of 9:10-12:00 days from Tuesday 31st August to Friday 10th of September. The Junior Infant children will begin their full days of 9:10-1:40 from Monday 13th September. Each Junior Infant child will receive an email in relation to their pod time this Friday 27th August, dependent on individual class numbers please expect this pod time to be of approx. 30 mins in duration and occur during the time frame 9:30- 1:00pm

2) Covid 19 Symptoms and Testing Protocols

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is important to know and recognise the symptoms of coronavirus (which includes the DELTA variant). Common symptoms of coronavirus include:

- a fever (high temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above).
- a new cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just dry.
- shortness of breath or breathing difficulties.
- loss or change in your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Fatigue
- Aches and Pains

Other uncommon symptoms of coronavirus include:

- sore throat
- headaches
- runny or stuffy noses
- feeling sick or vomiting
- diarrhoea

Infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 can cause illness, ranging from mild to severe, and, in some cases, can be fatal. It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show. They can be similar to symptoms of [cold](#) and [flu](#). If your child has any symptoms of COVID-19 (coronavirus), [self-isolate](#) and phone your family doctor straight away to see if your child requires [a free COVID-19 test](#). For the complete list of symptoms, please refer to the HSE [Website](#). Symptoms may be subject to change so regular review of the HSE Website is advised. Should your child be referred for a test we do ask that you email the school email info@svdpinfants.ie and subsequently inform the school of the result.

3) Attending School on Return from Abroad.

Returning from foreign travel advice can now be dependent on many details such as where you are returning from etc. This advice is ever changing so we ask that should you wish your child to return to school following travel abroad, please access this link for specific details in relation to isolation periods etc. that will be pertinent to you and your family. <https://www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice/coronavirus/general-covid-19-travel-advisory/>

As a courtesy, we would ask that you notify the school of any return from foreign travel and outline completion of the required isolation period. Please email info@svdpinfants.ie

4) Road Works on Griffith Avenue

As you are aware, there is considerable building work being completed on Griffith Avenue. There is now **extremely** limited parking available on the Avenue. We would highly recommend that you peruse the situation before Monday morning's drop off time, as this will give you an understanding of the lack of parking options. We highly recommend that you walk/cycle/scoot your child/children to school for the duration to avoid inconvenience to yourselves. There is ample storage for bicycles/scooters at the front of the school for same.

5) Rainy Day Procedures

Please arrive at the usual designated time for your child's class as follows :

First Class 9:00

Senior Infants 9:05

Junior Infants 9:10

The entry point for classes will be as follows:

Church Side Gate All FIRST CLASSES & JUNIOR INFANTS ROOM 2 + 3

Credit Union Side Gate ALL SENIOR INFANT CLASSES & JUNIOR INFANTS ROOM 4 + 5 + 6

6) Return to School Forms

We ask that you print out this Return to Educational Facility form and sign on your child's return to school next Monday morning. Please place it in your child's school bag for collection by the class teacher. Should you not have access to a printer, simply write the short wording of the declaration and sign.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/childcareguidance/Return%20to%20Educational%20Facility%20Declaration%20Form.doc>

7) Arrangements for School bags/Milk 21-22

The children are permitted to use a school bag for this school year. The children will also be given the option to be given a daily free carton of milk. You will receive a correspondence regarding same during September.

We will be sharing our School Covid Response Plan with you this Friday 27th of August. We are ensuring this will contain the most up to date guidelines regarding our Covid Protocols and Procedures to keep our school pupils and community safe before our reopening next Monday.

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Catherine Kennedy