



Procedures when a member of the school population tests positive for Covid-19

The aim of our Covid-19 Response Plan is to prevent Covid-19 from entering the school and reduce the spread of the virus if it does enter the school.

The purpose of the information outlined below is to help prepare the school community for what will happen in the event of a member of the school population testing positive for Covid-19.

If there is a confirmed Positive Case of Covid-19:

1. The HSE will notify the school and request information on our class pods, staff arrangements, school (including yard) layout.
2. The HSE will carry out a risk assessment and decide if a pod/class/class level/whole school must isolate and advise the school with regard to what actions to take.
3. **Parents of pupils affected/staff members will be contacted directly by HSE. The school will not be given confidential medical information on a child/staff member. The school will not name the individual/class/classes involved.**
4. The Principal will notify the school community if the HSE advise us to do so
 - Confirming that there has been a confirmed case
 - Informing that the HSE will be/ has been in contact with the affected close contacts of the confirmed case
 - Informing, if applicable, that all other students/staff members will continue to attend school as the school will remain open
5. There is no doubt that it is a distressing time for families who are dealing with a suspected or confirmed case and all pupils and staff and their families are entitled to confidentiality. The school cannot and will not make the name of a pupil or staff member with a suspected or confirmed case known to the public.
6. Unfortunately, we have no control over exchanges on social media, where information based on hearsay is shared. We would respectfully request that parents who choose to communicate about this issue on social media should consider how these comments could be misinterpreted. Please refrain from naming pupils and/ or staff and their families on these platforms.

To reduce the risk of spreading the virus:

- Sanitisation equipment/ cleaning routines/ cough etiquette/handwashing procedures are all in place
- Social distancing is practiced among staff, among pupils 3rd-6th Class and all children are reminded of the importance of keeping their distance at an age appropriate level
- Pupils are organised into pods and bubbles
- There is no interaction between pods indoors and no interaction between bubbles indoors or outdoors.
- There are staggered entry and exit times through different doors and gates
- There are staggered breaks for both pupils and staff
- Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid 19 or are generally unwell should not be in school. Parents are given regular reminders of this.

School work while isolating:

For pupils who have been advised by HSE to self-isolate for period in excess of one week:

- In lieu of additional school work, class homework will be provided
- The class homework for the period of absence will be shared with the parent via Aladdin Connect/SeeSaw
- This homework will be based on the work being completed by the class at the time of the pupil being required to self-isolate.
- Correction of work will be completed by the class teacher via Aladdin Connect/SeeSaw

As per school protocol in relation to any illness, when a pupil is isolating as a result of testing positive for Covid-19, no work will be assigned. **The completion of the homework assigned during the period of self-isolation is at the discretion of the pupil's parent/guardian.**

A home based learning programme will not be provided to a pupil who has travelled to a non-green list country during the school year and must self-isolate on return.