



## Back To School Plan: What Parents/Guardians Need To Know

*We can't wait to welcome your children back to school. To keep us all safe, we will be trying out new procedures. It is all very much a work in progress, as we learn what works best. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we navigate our new reality and do our best to work within the guidance provided.*

- Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling ill.
- Make sure we have up to date contact details for you on Aladdin Connect (new parents will be set up on this system over the coming weeks).
- If your child becomes ill in school please make arrangements for them to be collected promptly.
- If you are travelling abroad at any stage please follow public health advice and do not send your child back to school until it is safe to do so.



- To ensure safe entry and exit to school we will be staggering arrival and dismissal times.
- 3rd and 5th class will enter via their usual gates in the laneway at 9am.
- 4th and 6th will arrive at 9.10am and also use their usual gates.
- Classroom doors will be open and pupils should walk straight into their classrooms, maintaining social distance from other pupils. Ms. Sharkey and Ms. Coohill's 5th classes will enter via the door they used last year as their classrooms don't open to the outside. Mr. Early and Ms. O' Mahony's 5th classes will use the door beside the staffroom as their classrooms don't open to the outside either. 3rd classes should use the painted walkway at the front of the school to walk into their classes.
- Please do not send your child to school before 9am. We cannot have children mixing outside their class bubbles so there will be no morning yard. We also do not have enough space in the yard for pupils to line up in a socially distanced way, so there will be no lining up in the morning.
- We would encourage children to walk or cycle to school. If you are driving, please consider parking away from the school and walking the last leg of the journey, to avoid congestion on the narrow path at the front of the school.
- Hometime will also be staggered as follows: 3rd and 5th will exit via the laneway gates at 2.30pm and 4th and 6th will be dismissed at 2.40pm. It might be an idea to arrange to meet your child at a safe location away from the school e.g. the green area behind the school is away from traffic and there is lots of space to be socially distanced.



- Practise good hand hygiene and coughing and sneezing etiquette with your child at home. Encourage them to wash their hands for 20 seconds and check they are doing it properly.
- Give them their own pack of tissues to bring to school so if they sneeze they can 'catch it, bin it and kill it'!
- There will be hand sanitising facilities in each room and pupils will be encouraged to use them on a regular basis.





- There will be no visitors allowed into the school at this time. If you need to speak to a member of staff please write a note, ring the school, or email us and we will make arrangements to call you at a suitable time.
- If you need to collect your child early for any reason, please write a note to the class teacher. Your child will be brought to the porch at the designated time and the signing out book will also be in the porch. Please bring your own pen!
- If your child forgets something please put it in a bag with their name on it and there will be a box in the porch where you can leave it.
- There is only room for one person at a time in the porch so please do not enter if someone else is already there. There is a hand sanitizer available in the porch for you to use, as soon as you come in.



- Make sure your child has an adequate supply of pens, pencils, rubbers, sharpeners etc. Children will not be allowed to share their belongings and there will be no school shop. It would be a good idea to have one pencil case for school and one for home. We will be limiting items going to and from school as much as possible.
- There are currently no public health guidelines around school uniforms so pupils will wear their normal school uniform. It might be a good idea to change out of their uniform when they go home, especially if they are mixing with other children.
- If we are able to do PE this year children won't be able to change into their PE gear in school, so pupils can wear their own appropriate clothes on PE days.
- We don't want the children sitting indoors for long periods of time, so breaktimes will be very important. We aim to let the children out in the fresh air as much as possible so please make sure your child brings a rainproof coat with a hood and waterproof shoes to school every day.



- We have organised the furniture into 'pods' in each class 'bubble'. We have done our best to keep pods 1 metre apart 'where possible' as per Department of Education guidance, but we have big classes with up to 30 pupils and it will not always be possible to ensure physical distance.
- We have reconfigured the toilets so that class bubbles won't be sharing facilities and everything we do will be to minimise class pods and bubbles mixing, to limit any transmission of the virus within our school community.



*We will keep in touch with you with any changes or updates via email and will add notices to our school website [www.baysidesns.ie](http://www.baysidesns.ie). It is a good idea to download the app from our website to receive notifications from our school.*