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## Logistics Plan for the Safe and Sustainable Operation of Cloughjordan No.1 N.S.

### Underlying Principles

- The school has a responsibility to make every effort to ensure the safety, health and well-being of all members of our school community – children, parents and staff. This plan has been formulated to better ensure that the school can exercise that duty of care.
- Assuming it is in keeping with public health advice and guidelines issued by the Department of Education and Skills, it is preferable for all children to return to school for all five days of the school week and for a full school day. This plan has been formulated to achieve that aim.
- It is not possible to eliminate the risk of infection. However, with the co-operation of all members of our school community, it is possible to minimise the risk of the virus being introduced to school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- As well as co-operation, the flexibility and goodwill of all will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

### Assumptions

- All children return to school on Wed 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and classes operate within a bubble/group system.
- The school is split into 4 bubbles/groups.
- Groups will be constituted as follows: Junior & Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class.
- As children arrive from 9.15am in the morning they will go to their classroom as usual, using the entrance door for their classrooms.
- Children should only arrive between 9.00 and 9.15am in circumstances where arrival before the official starting time is necessary for parents going to work.
- The day will include 2 breaks
- Within each class from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, the children will be further divided into pods, with a distance of 1 metre being maintained between pods.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms. Hand sanitiser should contain a minimum of 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as the active ingredient.

## Timetables

Timetable	
9.00-9.15am	Before school supervision provided for pupils who need to arrive before the official opening time
9:15am	School opens
9.30am	Classes begin for all pupils
10.45 -11.00am	Break time for Junior & Senior Infants, Third & Fourth Class
11.10 -11.25am	Breaktime for First, Second, Fifth & Sixth Class
12.15 -12.45pm	Lunch time for Junior & Senior Infants, Third & Fourth Class
12.55 -1.25pm	Lunch time for First, Second, Fifth & Sixth Class
2.00pm	School ends for Junior & Senior Infants – Parents to collect children outside classroom door, social distancing to be observed & asked to disperse promptly
3.00pm	School ends for First -Sixth Class – Parents collecting children to wait outside the road wall, observe social distancing & asked to disperse promptly

## Entrance & Exit Points for Specific Classes

Teacher	Class	Entrance	Exit
Mr. Hayes	Infants	Infant door (Parents may walk children to the outside door but asked to remain outside the building)	Infant door & by main gate in front of grey door
Mr. Farrell	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class door (Parents asked to remain outside the road wall)	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class door & by main gate in front of grey door, unless collecting bike from bike shelter
Ms. Cromer	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Class	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Class door – door in shared hallway nearest their classroom. (Parents asked to remain outside the road wall)	Infant door & by gate nearest to Fire Station
Mr. Coughlan	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Class	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class door – door in shared hallway & nearest their classroom (Parents asked to remain outside the road wall)	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class door & by main gate in front of grey door, unless collecting bike from bike shelter

- Messages for teachers can be sent by email, homework diary or by phoning the school office.

## Collection of Children during the School Day

Children should not be collected during the day except for a medical appointment, that cannot be arranged outside of school hours, or in the case of an emergency.

In the event of an adult collecting a child during the course of the school day, the following arrangements will apply:

- When the adult arrives at the school, they should **remain in their car** and ring the school on **0505 42318** and make contact with school secretary/class teacher
- The child will meet the adult at the appropriate outside door (details above).
- No adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so or by prior arrangement.

## Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19

Pupils should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If a pupil displays symptoms of Covid-19 while in the building, the following procedures will be implemented:

- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately
- The child will be accompanied to the designated isolation area (inside the main door) by a member of staff. The staff member will remain at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic child and will also make sure others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic child at all times.
- A mask will be provided for the child presenting with symptoms. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises
- An assessment will be made as to whether the child who is displaying symptoms can immediately be brought home by parents/guardians and call their doctor and continue self-isolation at home.
- The school will facilitate the child presenting with symptoms to remain in isolation, if they cannot immediately go home, and will continue to monitor the sick child.
- The child presenting with symptoms will be advised to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze and put the tissue in a waste bin.
- If the child is well enough to go home, the school will arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible, and advise them to inform their GP by phone of their symptoms.
- If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, the school will contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick child is a Covid-19 suspected case.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.

The HSE will inform any staff/parents/guardians who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed.

## Children who should not attend school

If your child is in one of the following categories, they should not attend school –

- Children with a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
- Children with any other common symptoms of Covid-19 ~ a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, shortness of breath or an existing breathing condition that has recently become worse
- Children who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19
- Children who have been living with someone who is unwell and may have Covid 19
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school
- Children who with other uncommon symptoms of Covid 19, such as sore throat, headaches, diarrhoea
- In accordance with international travel advice, <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/77952-government-advice-on-international-travel/#travelling-to-ireland>

## Symptoms of Covid-19

As listed on the HSE's website ( <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/symptoms/overview/> ) common symptoms of coronavirus include:

- a fever (high temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above)
- a cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just dry
- shortness of breath or breathing difficulties
- loss or change to 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 stuffed 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](#).

## Supporting the Learning of Children who cannot attend school

If a child is not able to attend school for an extended period of time, the class teacher (and/or the Special education teacher, where relevant) will share suggested activities to support the child's learning at home with parents/guardians.

## Impact of a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Covid-19 in a Class

If the school is notified that a person in your child's class has a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19

- Public health advice will be sought and followed

## Personal Equipment

- In so far as possible, it is requested that children will bring their own pens, pencils, colours, rubbers, etc., to school in their own pencil case to avoid the sharing of equipment. Parents may wish to provide two pencilcases – one which stays at home for home use and one which remains in school for school use.
- All personal items must have the child's name on them for ease of identification.
- Children must not bring **any** unnecessary items to school with them, including toys.

## Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including iPads, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in the Infant classroom. Cleaning of such shared equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

## **Playground**

Each bubble will have a designated area in the playground & children must remain inside their designated area.

Breaktimes will be supervised by teachers and SNA

## **Special Education**

In keeping with our Special Education policy, support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal.

- Where a support teacher is working alongside a class teacher in a classroom, both teachers must be mindful of maintaining social distance from one another.
- Where children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class receive support in one of the SET rooms, social distancing of 1 metre will be maintained between each child in the group.
- The tables and chairs in SET rooms will be wiped clean in between different groups attending

## **PPE**

Staff will wear a face covering as advised by the Department of Education and skills and in accordance with guidelines. Staff who are attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid will wear appropriate PPE including gloves and face masks/visors. Staff members in an “at risk” category should take extra precautions in this regard.

## **Teacher Absence and Substitution**

In the event that teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. Extra substitute cover has been secured with the establishment of a teacher supply panel based in Nenagh. This service is limited with three teachers available to meet the needs of 25 schools. If a substitute teacher is not available, it is not appropriate for the class to be divided into groups and accommodated in other classes. Special Education teacher(s) may step in, but if this is not possible, the class may not be able to attend on that day. If that is the case, as much notice as possible will be given to parents/guardians.

## **PE**

Weather permitting, PE will take place outdoors and use of equipment should be minimised. Appropriate footwear must be worn by all pupils. The General Purpose room cannot be used for PE as it is in use as a store for furniture removed from all classrooms.

## **Extra-curricular Activities**

School activities are a priority and to safeguard these we will endeavour to ensure that the integrity of groups and controls we have put in place are not compromised. The provision of Extra Curricular Activities will be reviewed throughout the year. Any extra curricular activities will require Board of Management approval.

## **Behaviour**

Behaviours such as deliberately coughing or sneezing in another’s face and not complying with the measures/procedures in place to facilitate the safe and sustainable re-opening of school will be seen as inappropriate and unacceptable. Behaviours such as deliberately coughing or sneezing in another’s face will be seen, and responded to, as serious misbehaviours. Teachers will discuss this with their classes alert them that sanctions will apply, after an initial warning.

All Circulars, Guidance Documents and Information Notes from the Department of Education and Skills can be found on

<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/a128d-back-to-school/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/backtoschool/>

Details in this logistics plan may be changed as necessary and/or when new information is issued by the Department of Education and Skills and/or the HSE/HPSC.