



Knockanes National School, Headford, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93HX80.

Phone: 064-7754038 Uimhir Rolla: 13150Q

12th March 2021

Dear Parents,

We look forward to a safe and much anticipated return to school for pupils in 4th - 6th Classes on Monday next, 15th March. Our procedures and protocols remain the same since before Christmas. Our Covid Response Plan is available on our website at <https://www.knockanesns.ie/covid-19>

Here are some reminders that we would appreciate your cooperation with over the coming weeks.

1. Drop off and Collection Routines:

Drop offs (doors open from 9:00 a.m.) Classes commence at 9:20 a.m.

Collections (2:00 p.m. / 3:00 p.m.)

Children will exit the school daily in their class groupings (Infants -2nd) and in their Pods (3rd - 6th). Infants collected at 2:00pm will exit through the main front door. From 3:00pm, Infants attending 2-3 Club will exit through the main front door followed by pupils from Ms Fenton's Classes (4th-6th). Mr O Connor's Classes (1st-3rd Classes) from their side exit door.

Entry and Exit Doors:

- **Main front door: Junior & Senior Infants/ 4th-6th Classes**
- **Side door (near shed) : 1st, 2nd, 3rd Classes**

It is imperative that

- **Children are not dropped off before 9.00am (we cannot have lines/ groups of children congregating outside of the school building)**
- **Pupils are collected at 2:00/3:00 pm sharp and go directly to their cars once they exit through school gate.**
- **Adults do not come within 2m of each other and should not congregate at the school gate. Parents wishing to speak with a teacher should make an appointment to speak with them over the phone at a suitable time.**
- **All parents adhere to the drop-off and collection plans as outlined.**

2. Break Times for Pupils:

Children will be playing with their own class groups or 'Bubble' in designated areas.

3. Classrooms:

Children from Junior Infants to Second Class will not be in pods in the classroom as social distancing for this age group is not required, as set out in Department guidelines. Each class group or 'Bubble' as it is referred to in the guidelines will not mix with each other at school.

Children from Third Class to Sixth Class will be in Pods within the classroom group or 'Bubble'. The Pods will mainly be in groups of four but this may vary depending on the numbers in the class. Again, children from each classroom group or Bubble would not mix with each other at school.

4. Hand Washing and Using Hand Sanitiser:

Proper hand washing, use of hand sanitiser and good cough/sneeze etiquette are still key elements of keeping safe. Please go over this again with your children prior to re-opening. Teachers will also focus on this in school. Hand sanitiser, paper towels and hand driers for drying hands are installed in all classrooms and we will continue with our hand hygiene schedule as before Christmas.

5. Parent Contact:

It is vital that parents do not send children to school if they are showing any Covid-19 related symptoms whatsoever. If your child is sick at school then you will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible. For this reason it is imperative that parents/guardians are contactable at all times throughout the school day in case of children becoming ill. Your full co-operation is needed and much appreciated on this.

6. Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form:

You are required to complete a **Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form** for your child. returning on Monday 15th. A link to this online form is included in the email.

All our procedures are under constant review so there may be updates or changes to any of the above and we would appreciate your patience as we navigate this process. We will text/email you to notify you of any updates. Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Kind regards,

Lucy O Sullivan

Principal