

Logistics Plan for Re-opening Cahir National School

Cahir West, Kenmare, Co Kerry
064 6642244

Roll No: 187590
Email:cahirschool@gmail.com

Underlying Principles

- The school has a responsibility to make 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 and classes operate within a bubble system.
- Starting and finishing times remain as usual (9.20am to 3.00pm with Infants going home at 2.00pm).
- The school is split into 3 class bubbles with each bubble having different break times and lunch times. Children will be allocated pods in the classroom. Names will be placed on the desks for the specific pod.
- Bubbles will be constituted of Junior Infants/Senior Infants/1st class (Ms Lynch), 2nd/3rd class (Ms O'Sullivan for whom Ms Mahony will be Substitute Teacher), and 5th/6th class (Mr Crean).
- The day will include 2x 20 minute breaks
- Within each class from 3rd to 6th a minimum distance of 1 metre will be maintained between seating and pupils will be encouraged to maintain this distance both indoors and outdoors throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all classrooms.

	<i>Ms Lynch</i>	<i>Ms Mahony</i>	<i>Mr Crean</i>
<i>Entry Time</i>	<i>9:10am - 9:20am</i>	<i>9:10am - 9:20am</i>	<i>9:10am - 9:10am</i>
<i>Sos</i>	<i>10:40 - 11am</i>	<i>11am - 11:20am</i>	<i>11am – 11:20am</i>
<i>Lón</i>	<i>12:30 - 12:50pm</i>	<i>12:50 - 1:10pm</i>	<i>12:50 – 1:10pm</i>
<i>Hometime</i>	<i>Infants: 2pm 1st Class: 3:00pm</i>	<i>3:00pm</i>	<i>3:00pm</i>

Arrival at school

- Each group should aim to arrive at the school in the 10 minutes immediately preceding their start time. Children should alight from cars at gravel edge of court and make their way to their classroom doors.
- Each child should enter through the designated classroom door at rear of building:
 - Infants & 1st Class: Ms. Lynch's door
 - 2nd & 3rd Classes: Ms O'Sullivan's door (at far end of building)
 - 5th & 6th Classes: Mr Crean's door (used to be Mrs Hanley's door)
- **NO** adults, other than staff members, should enter the school building.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by email to cahirschool@gmail.com or by phoning the school office **064 6642244**.

End of School Day

- Traffic Schedule has been issued. Children will remain in classrooms until directed by teachers to exit classroom to meet cars as they arrive at gravel edge. No children will wait in back yard.

Collection of Children during the School Day

If an adult has to collect a child during the course of the school day, prior notice is required via email or telephone call to the office.

- When the adult arrives at the school, they should go to the classroom door at the rear of the building. If children are outdoors at play, adult must wait outside gates until staff arrive.
- The child will be brought from their class to the adult by a member of staff.
- The adult who is collecting will be asked to sign the child out.
- **NO** adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so.

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 are the procedures will be implemented:

- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately.
- The child will be accompanied to the designated isolation area via the isolation route by a member of staff. The staff member will remain at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic child and will also make sure that 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, if one is available. 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 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 assist them by calling their GP.
- The child presenting with symptoms should be advised to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and to put the tissue in the waste bag provided.
- 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. Public transport of any kind should not be used.
- 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 suspect.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved. The HSE will inform any staff/parents 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 who have been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children who have been in contact with a person who has a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school.

- Children who have returned home after travelling abroad and must self-isolate for a period of 14 days
- Children who are generally unwell

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 learning support teacher, where relevant) suggested activities to support the child's learning at home will be shared with parents.

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 Covid19

- The parents of all children in the class will be notified
- Public health advice will be sought and followed

Personal Equipment

- It is requested that children will bring their own pens, pencils, colours, rubbers, etc. on the first day of school to avoid the sharing of equipment. It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.
- Each child's pencils, colours etc will be kept at school in a pencil holder/case labelled with their name on his/her desk and each child's books will be stored in an individual labelled basket on or under his/her desk. These will remain at school with alternative items remaining at home if required for homework.
- All items including jumpers, jackets and coats must be clearly labelled with child's full name. Arrangements will be made re use of cloakrooms/storage of coats for each bubble.
- Arrangements regarding books being brought to and from school for homework will be made on a bubble by bubble basis and communicated to parents by the class teacher.
- Hand sanitiser will be available. Children may bring their own hand gel, if parents/guardians desire. Junior pupils will not have unsupervised access to individual bottles of hand gel.

Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in Infant classrooms. 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.

Yards

Each bubble will have access to the yards during their allotted break times

Yards will be supervised by class teachers, support teachers and SNA's working within those bubbles.

Toilets

Toilet rotas will be in place for each mainstream bubble and a colour coding system will be in place in bathrooms to ensure one cubicle and sink is assigned to each pod. The staff will agree a rota for the toilets in the Staff Room area.

Learning Support /Special Education

In keeping with our Special Education policy, learning support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal. The provision of support will be organised to ensure our support teachers will work within the confines of a bubble.

- 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 3rd to 6th 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

Face coverings are to be worn by all staff. Staff attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid will wear appropriate PPE including gloves and face masks and ensure appropriate and safe disposal of same.

Teacher Absence and Substitution

In the event that a teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. If a substitute teacher is not available, it is not appropriate for the class to be divided into groups and accommodated in other classes. In such circumstances, as per DES guidelines, a SET teacher will cover the class and on a subsequent day when a substitute teacher is available a teacher will be hired to allow for extra provision for children who have missed support time due to this system being in place.

PE

PE will take place outdoors and use of equipment should be confined to the sets that have been distributed to class groupings.

Extra-curricular Activities

The possibility of facilitating extra-curricular activities will be explored. However, it would not be recommended that children from different bubbles would participate in extra-curricular activities at the same time.

Curriculum

It will take time for staff and students to adjust to being back in school environment and be ready to engage with teaching and learning. Time will be spent on settling the pupils and getting them ready for learning which will yield positive outcomes and reduce anxiety. There will be a focus on pupil wellbeing. Schools are required during the initial weeks of the first term, to give greater time and attention to areas such as Social, Personal and Health Education, Physical Education, Languages and Mathematics. It is intended that as schools form comprehensive pictures of where pupils are in their learning they will work towards more typical curriculum plans.

This plan is based on current guidelines and may need to be altered depending on further public health advice that may be issued in the future. Cahir National School will continuously assess, review and

evaluate this plan, and will make the necessary amendments and changes to keep all pupils, staff and parents safe.