

Scoil Bhríde



Clara Co Offaly
Roll No: 13118U

Scoil Bhríde Return to School Update

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Since the publication of the Government's Roadmap for the reopening of schools we have been planning to ensure a safe return to school for all pupils and staff on Monday August 31st.

The wellbeing of our school community is the fundamental element of our overall plan to ensure a successful return to school in an atmosphere of safety, support and calm for all.

We would like to remind you to read the return to school information document which we sent out to you a few weeks ago. Here are some more updates for your information and we would like to state that all the arrangements we have put in place are for the protection and welfare of the entire school community.

Aladdin Connect:

On Monday August 24th we will be setting up a new way of communicating with you and you with us called **Aladdin Connect**. It enables you to stay connected and informed about what is happening in the school, details of your child's attendance, test results reports etc. By now you should have received an email with an information letter telling you about Aladdin Connect and a cheat sheet explaining step by step how to set up your Aladdin Connect. You will receive your link later in the week from Olive and this will enable you to set it up.

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT ALL ADULTS ENTERING THE SCHOOL YARD AND BUILDING MUST WEAR A MASK AND FOLLOW ALL SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES BY REMAINING 2 METRES APART.

If your child wears a mask when coming in to school if it is not being worn for the full day that mask must to be taken home by you. School staff will not be handling these. If it taken off during the day, please make sure that your child has a Ziploc bag to put it in to.

You are also reminded that pupils must take home all of their own rubbish e.g. wrappers, tissues etc so we recommend that they have a ZIPLOCK bag for this in their school bag.

Drop off at school each day:

Parents/guardians from 1st to 6th classes are requested to drop pupils at the gate and leave immediately. They will be met by school staff from 9. 10 am. Parents/guardians will only enter the school premises by making an appointment directly with the class teacher or with the office.

Junior and Senior Infant Parents may bring their children to the school yard but not before 9.30am. They will be taking the children to the school door and there be met by the teacher.

- 1st to 6th will be dropped at the school gate and asked to follow the path and the arrows to their assigned yard.
- 5th and 6th Green yard.
- 3rd and 4th Blue Yard
- 1st and 2nd Red yard □ Infants Yellow yard.
- Sunrise 1 and 2 will enter through the front door.

On the first morning school staff will be there to guide pupils to their designated yards.

The Department of Education is recommending that children who are old enough should walk or cycle to school. We would like to encourage this also.

Classroom Pods:

We have had a number of enquiries from parents who have concerns about the pods. A pod is another name for a group of children sitting together in class who will stay together for class work. In the yard they will mix for play with other pods in their class bubble but not with other classes. Teachers will put the children into their pods as they always have and the teacher from last year will work with this year's teacher to plan the pods so that all the children are happy within their group. These will then change at Christmas and Easter.

School Lunches:

School lunches will be available from August 31st. Please log on to Bradbury's using your login details to order school lunches otherwise you will be given the lunch you were ordering last year.

New Junior Infant Parents have been given Log in details and menus in your school pack so we encourage you to order also please.

If you have any difficulty, please contact the office@sbclara.ie or Bradbury's for more information.

Breakfast Club:

Breakfast club will be available this year but will consist of 2 food items for all who wish to avail of it. We will have food items available for the first week and then we will ask pupils to order their own.

Drop off Box:

In future if a parent/guardian needs to drop a lunch or something a child has forgotten there will be a drop off box in the front porch. Please ring the office to let Olive know that you will be dropping off something. Place the item with the child's name written clearly on it in the drop off box in the porch and we will arrange for it to be collected by the child in question.

Uniform:

As we have told you previously there will be no change to uniform but we do encourage you to have spares and to wash and change them frequently.

Coats:

All pupils' coats will be hung on the back of their chair in the classroom.

Homework:

For the first 2 weeks in September there will be no homework. After that we will assess the situation and make a plan for how we hope to proceed.

Return of School Material:

If you still have books at home that belong to the school, please let us know as they must be put into isolation for 72 hours before they can be used in the school.

Sanitising:

Schools have been advised that young pupils should not have their own sanitising gel. Pupils who bring this to school will be required to keep it in their bag as all sanitising gel will be provided by the school.

Isolation Room:

We have set up an Isolation room in Scoil Bhríde for pupils who display any symptoms during the school day. This is located beside the Principal's Office directly in from the school yard. If a child displays any Covid-19 Symptoms they will be immediately brought to the Isolation Room to await collection by a Parents/Guardian.

We will be issuing a school policy approved by the Board of Management of how we will manage a suspected case in the school and we will be following this policy strictly for all who display symptoms.

If your child is displaying Symptoms:

The following is the guidance from the HSE.

If your child is displaying symptoms e.g. cough, fever, loss of taste or smell you must ensure that she self-isolates and contact your GP for advice. Siblings must also restrict their movements until a test comes back negative or otherwise sanctioned by the GP.

If your child has a runny nose or is sneezing, she may attend school.

Restricting Movement - please do not attend school until told to do so by the HSE or GP. The school may require written evidence of fitness to return to school.

You will need to restrict your movements for 14 days if you are a [close contact](#) of a confirmed case of coronavirus

- live with someone who has [symptoms of coronavirus](#), but you feel well
- arrive into Ireland from a country that is not on the [COVID-19 green list](#) - this list is updated every 14 days by the Government

Guidelines for Parents in the event that a child presents with symptoms:

The Board of Management has prepared an up to date guidelines document for parents/guardians and this is being emailed out to all families.

We look forward to seeing everyone next week.

Nora Kavanagh and staff

And please remember

“When *little people*
are overwhelmed by
big emotions, it’s
our job to share our
calm, not join their
chaos.”

-L.R. KNOST-