



# Guardian Angels' N.S.

## Plan for Reopening of the School

### 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.
- 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
- The school is split into 2 groups with each group having different starting times, break times, lunch times and finishing times.
- Groups will be constituted of one class from Junior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> class.
- The day will include 2 x 20 minute breaks
- Within each class from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, the children will be further divided into pods, with a minimum distance of 1 metre being maintained between pods
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms

### Timetables

<b>Timetable for Red Group</b>	<b>Timetable for Blue Group</b>	
<b>8.30 – School start</b>	<b>8.50 – School start</b>	
<b>09.50 – Break time</b>	<b>10.15 – Break time</b>	
<b>10.10 – Class resumes</b>	<b>10.35 – Class resumes</b>	
<b>12.00 – Lunch time</b>	<b>12.25 – Lunch time</b>	
<b>12.20 – Class resumes</b>	<b>12.45 – Class resumes</b>	
<b>13.10 – Infant classes finish</b>	<b>13.30 – Infant classes finish</b>	
<b>14.10 – 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Classes finish</b>	<b>14.30 – 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Classes finish</b>	





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### Entrance & Exit Points for Specific Classes

Teacher	Class	Entrance & Exit Point
Ms. Harten	J. Infants	Park Gate & Infants' Door
Ms. B. Fahy	J. Infants	Park Gate & Infants' Door
Ms. Holst	S. Infants	Park Gate & Infants' Door
Ms. Campbell	S. Infants	Park Gate & Infants' Door
Ms. Mann	First	'Church' Gate & Main Door
Ms. O'Sullivan/Ms. O'Dowd	First	'Church' Gate & Main Door
Ms. Hurley	Second	'Church Gate' & Side Door
Mrs. Doherty	Second	'Church Gate' & Main Door
Mr. Howley	Third	'Church Gate' & Side Door
Ms. McNeice	Third	'Church Gate' & Main Door
Ms. Whelehan	Fourth	Main Gate & Main Door
Ms. Molloy/Ms. O'Connor	Fourth	Main Gate & Side Door
Ms. Cafferkey	Fifth	Main Gate & Main Door
Ms. Walker	Fifth	Main Gate & Side Door
Mr. Quinn	Sixth	Main Gate & Main Door
Ms. Harraghy	Sixth	Main Gate & Main Door

- Each group should aim to arrive at the school in the 10 minutes immediately preceding their start time  
**Red Group – 8.20 – 8.30**  
**Blue Group – 8.40 – 8.50**
- We ask for co-operation with these times as it will mean that the numbers congregating on school grounds at any one time will be minimised. Children should not arrive in the yard before the appointed time.
- Children will go directly to their classrooms, except for Junior and Senior Infants, who will line up. **If siblings are in different groups, we ask that you send them in at the appropriate time.**



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**We know that this will create difficulties for some families, but this is the only way that the system will work.**

- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by Homework Journal, e-mail [info@guardianangels.ie](mailto:info@guardianangels.ie) or by telephoning the Office 01 2833961

### End of School Day

- Parents/Guardians will be expected to wear a mask and practice social distancing while on the school grounds.
- When the school day for that class is over the following arrangements will apply –
  - Jun Inf – Second Class - the class teacher will bring the children to their designated entrance/exit point and will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class – the class teacher will allow each pod to leave the classroom separately in order to minimise contact

### Collection of Children during the School Day

If an adult has to collect a child during the course of the school day, the following arrangements will apply

- When the adult arrives at the school, they should either phone the office or use the intercom at the front door of the school to alert the office that they have arrived
- 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



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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 due to Covid – 19 restrictions, the class teacher and/or the learning support teacher, where relevant, will provide activities to support the child's learning at home.

#### **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

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

#### **Personal Equipment**

- In so far as possible, it is requested that children from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Class will bring their own pens, pencils, colours, rubbers, etc., to school in their own pencil case to avoid the sharing of equipment. This pencil case should be left in school.
- It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.
- All children should bring a little bag containing a small hand towel/face cloth which should be changed regularly.
- Children in First to Sixth Classes should also bring a bottle of personal hand sanitizer.

#### **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



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equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

### **Uniform**

Pupils will continue to wear the school uniform and the tracksuit. The uniform and tracksuit should be in a presentable condition, but there is no need to wash the clothes every day. We recommend that the children change out of the uniform when they get home and the uniform be hung up. It might be an ideal to hang the uniform on the line for a while.

### **Learning Support**

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 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**

While it is not envisaged that PPE will be worn by staff while maintaining a 2m distance, staff who are attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid, or who cannot maintain a one metre distance will wear appropriate PPE including gloves, face masks and visors.

### **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. 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, it may not be possible for the class to attend on that day. If that is the case, as much notice as possible will be given to parents.

### **School Closure**

In the event the school is required to close again due to a lockdown/class required to learn remotely due to the unavailability of a substitute teacher, the school will require that pupils take home all books/materials on the day of closure.

### **Homework**

Homework will consist of reading, learning, PE and wellbeing activities for the month of September. It will be reviewed.

### **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. The staggered finishing times will also make the scheduling of after-school activities



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problematic. Further updates will be provided in September. There will be no swimming during the first two terms.

**21/08/2020**