



## Some practical information that you will need for your child's return to school ☺

### PART 1: General Tips



#### 1. First day back to school

\* One parent can accompany child to their classroom

#### 2. Arrival and Departure from school

\* Children can arrive to their class between 8.50 and 9.10

\* Please see *Back to School Update 1* that outlines all our arrival and departure procedures for each class.

#### 3. Lunchbreaks

##### Morning Break:

10:25-10:35: 7 classes

10:45-10:55: 7 classes

Classes will be encouraged to take break during morning time outside in the yard.

##### Lunchtime:

12:00-12:30: 7 classes

12:40-13:10: 7 classes

\*The school yard will be divided into 7 distinct play areas. Each class will be assigned an area.



#### **4. Children's Lunches**

We ask that children bring in an empty lunchbox to bring home lunch packaging and left over lunch food.

\*The children will receive a hot lunch and morning snack every day as per last year.\*

#### **Morning snack:**

All classes to receive a morning snack as per last year's schedule to commence from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Junior Infants will also receive a morning snack.

#### **Hot Lunch**

Next week Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> Class and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class pupils will receive a hot lunch at lunchtime as per last year's menu options. New students in each of these year groups will be able to choose from a supplementary supply of hot lunches until menu choices are registered. We are working in partnership with Glanmore Foods to have our Hot Lunches up and running for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of September. In the event that the Hot Lunches are not operational for Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of September, Glanmore will supply classes with a variety of sandwich lunch packs until the Hot Lunches are operational. We will keep you informed on this. Either way, lunches will be provided to children from day one of school.

Junior Infants will not receive a hot lunch in the first weeks due to the length of school day. Junior Infants will receive menus next week in order to register for the service and families will be informed of start date in due course.

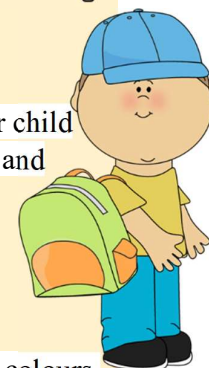
#### **5. Homework**

Each year group of teachers will discuss Homework plans with parents.



#### **6. Schoolbags**

Children can bring in their own school bags to school. We have two hand sanitiser dispensers, tissues and paper towels available in each classroom but if you wish your child can bring in their own sanitiser and tissues in their school bag. Apart from lunchbox and drink bottle it requested that children do not bring other items to school.



#### **7. Stationery**

Teachers will supply all stationery and supplies needed for school including pencils, colours, and art & craft equipment.



## **8. Books**

Booklist costs and details will be available on the school website for each year group from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of August. The school supplies all books, folders, copies and equipment. We will send home a printed booklist and **labelled envelope** for book money to be sent with all children on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of September. **We ask you to submit payment in dedicated labelled envelope from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.** Each child is asked to give the payment directly to the class teacher on entering the classroom during the first two weeks of school. A receipt will be issued to parents and sent home in the child's schoolbag.

## **9. Uniforms**

We encourage children to wear their uniform and school tracksuit as normal.

Our **Junior Infants** this year will be wearing school tracksuit every day.

For **Senior Infants** will now wear school tracksuit on PE days, and school uniform on the other weekdays. We welcome if children choose to wear a light blue airtex t-shirt with collar under their jumpers instead of shirts to make it easier to roll up sleeves for handwashing. Regular blue shirts are also welcome at the choice of each family.

For **1<sup>st</sup> Classes** and **2<sup>nd</sup> Classes** we encourage the children to wear full uniform including blue shirt 3 days a week and school tracksuit on PE days.

Please wash your child's uniform and tracksuit regularly (once or twice a week as per usual). Coats should also be cleaned regularly.

Children should change out of uniform/tracksuit immediately after returning home from school.



## **PART 2: Arrival & Departure from School**

### **1. Children's arrival to school**

We will be continuing our arrival to school procedures as per last year. It is planned to begin school at 8:50 a.m. and teachers will be ready to receive their class through the classroom fire door from this time. We are allowing for a 20-minute window for children to arrive to their class up until 9:10 a.m.

In the interests of public health, we plan to minimise the number of visitors to our campus including parents. For that reason, we have put together the following plan;

**\*\* Please note that any visitors on the school campus must wear a mask at all times\*\***

**\*\* All parents and children on the campus must maintain social distance while walking to and from their classrooms, follow the arrows, and stay on the correct side of the path where marked\*\***

#### **• 2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

We ask parents to bring their children to the Main Gate of the School, the Shelerin Rd. Gate or the Community Centre Gate from 08:50 a.m. Staff will be present and supervising the yard and grounds. The children are returning to the same classrooms as last year. One parent can accompany child to classroom door for the first week of school Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. From Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of September we ask that children walk from the school gate to their classroom themselves with staff supervision

#### **• 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

The First Classes are moving to a classroom block on the other side of school exiting onto the school yard. This is a new setting for the First Class pupils. One adult is permitted to see their child to the classroom door in the morning for the first week and a half of school. From Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of September, we ask parents of First Class pupils to see their child to the school gates.

#### **• Senior Infants**

The Senior Infants will be attending school in the classroom block closest to the main school gates. One parent is permitted to bring their child to the classroom door and exit school grounds without delay while observing social distancing at all times.



- **Junior Infants**

The Junior Infants will be attending school in the classroom block second to the Main school gates. One parent is permitted to bring their child to the classroom door and exit school grounds without delay while observing social distancing at all times.

<b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept.</b>	<b>9.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.</b>
<b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> of Sept.</b>	<b>8.50-9:10 a.m.- 11.00 a.m.</b>
<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – Fri 10<sup>th</sup> of Sept.</b>	<b>8.50-9.10 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.</b>
<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> –Fri 17<sup>th</sup> of Sept.</b>	<b>8.50-9.10 a.m. – 12.00 a.m.</b>
<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup>- Fri 24<sup>th</sup> of Sept.</b>	<b>8.50-9.10 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.</b>
<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> of Sept. onwards</b>	<b>8.50-9.10 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.</b>

## **2. Children's departure from school**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

Children will finish school at 2.30 p.m. in order to avoid congestion with the Senior School but also to accommodate families with children in both schools. On the first morning of school parents will be asked to inform the class teacher of their home time arrangement and sign off on this. Make sure your child is aware of the arrangement.

### **Options:**

- \*Meet your child at the main gate accompanied by class teacher.
- \*Meet your child at the basketball court and exit via Shelerin Rd. gate.
- \*Your child can meet his/her sibling from Senior School at either gate.
- \* Your child has permission to walk home alone.

- **1st Class**

Children will finish school at 2.30 in order to avoid congestion with the senior school. On the first morning of school parents will be asked to inform the class teacher of their home time arrangement and sign off on this. Make sure your child is aware of the arrangement.

### **Options:**

- \*Meet your child at the main gate accompanied by class teacher.
- \*Meet your child at the basketball court and exit via Shelerin Rd. gate.
- \*Your child can meet his/her sibling from Senior School at either gate.



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- **Senior Infants**

1.30: One parent/guardian is permitted to collect their child from the classroom door and exit school grounds without delay while observing social distancing at all times.

- **Junior Infants**

One parent/guardian is permitted to collect their child from the classroom door and exit school grounds without delay while observing social distancing at all times.



## **PART 3: Health & Safety- Covid-19 related Procedures**

### **Back to School - Safety Precautions Revisited:**

Returning to school or starting school for the first time in the current climate is a stressful and nervous time for all. By following the Government's Road Map for a full return to school and taking public health advice into account we have planned a safe and calm return to St. Philip's Junior School for all our students on September 1st.

### ***The following Measures will continue in our school:***

#### **1. Supporting and Promoting good hand hygiene;**

Children should arrive at school with clean hands. Throughout the day staff and children will clean their hands by washing or sanitizing;

- on arrival at school
- before eating or drinking
- after using the toilet
- after petting animals
- after playing outdoors
- when their hands are physically dirty
- when they cough or sneeze

Children will be taught the correct way to wash, dry, and sanitize their hands and by doing this regularly will help keep each other safe.

Two pump hand sanitizers have been installed in each classroom as well as many stations throughout the school.

#### **2. Good respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette;**

We have posters placed in all classrooms and throughout the school promoting good respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.



- Children will be taught to ‘catch’ their sneezes and coughs in a tissue, to dispose of the tissue, and to wash their hands.

### **3. Enhanced cleaning regimes:**

- The school has been thoroughly cleaned before the children return to school and our daily cleans of classrooms have been increased by 2hrs to allow for daily cleaning of tables, chairs, and touch points around the school.
- Classrooms will be well ventilated every day with windows and doors kept open for a lot of the day. Classes will also be encouraged to take regular breaks/lessons outside. Children should be dressed for the weather.
- Toys and resources which are shared either within a class or between classes will be washed and sanitized or quarantined before being allocated to next group or class.

### **4. Maintaining physical distancing in the classroom and around the school:**

As our school is a Junior School the children are not obliged to maintain social distance from each other within the classroom. The following does apply;

- Each class is referred to as **a bubble**. There will be very limited contact between students from each bubble within the school. E.g. In the yard each class bubble is designated a particular area to play in. Children may play with all the children in their own bubble.
- In each class bubble the children will be split into groups to sit at, now called **Pods**. The children will spend the majority of the day in these pods and will not share items (toys, art materials, etc.) with children from other pods. Pods/groups shall be set up 1 metre apart and all classrooms will be set up according to the guidelines from the department of education.
- When moving around the school there are some one-way systems in place. The classes will also use the routes outside to get from one area of the school to another.
- Support teachers and SNA’s have been timetabled for September to ensure minimal contact between classes while still providing all necessary supports.



*In order to minimise the risk of introduction of infection in our schools we ask all parents to adhere to the following measures;*

- Children may not attend school if they are in anyway unwell. They may not attend if they have a cough (of any kind unless medical certificate indicates reason), fever, or shortness of breath, or identified Covid-19 symptoms as per public health advice.
- Parents access to the school is limited for arrival and departure times in the morning (see update 1). Any other parental access to the school should be by appointment only (by phone or email).
- Please maintain a social distance of 2meteres at all times when on and around the school campus, and avoid any social gatherings.
- Should pupils have essential appointments, parents should let the school know expected arrival time in advance. 3 people maximum are allowed in reception. Please always wear a face covering when in the school grounds.
- If you have recently returned from holiday and the country you have visited is not on the up to date green list, make sure you and your child follow the recommended procedures at set out by public health. Please let the school know of your child's expected return date to school.