

Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh (C)
Bóthar an Churraichín,
Baile an Easpaig,
Corcaigh.
T12 RR68

Fón: 021-4543305

Fax: 021-4543305

E-mail: admin@bishopstowngirlsschool.ie

www.bishopstowngirlsschool.ie

Uimhir Rolla 19000E



Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh (C)
Curraheen Road,
Bishopstown,
Cork.
T12 RR68

Tel: 021-4543305

Fax: 021-4543305

E-mail: admin@bishopstowngirlsschool.ie

www.bishopstowngirlsschool.ie

Roll Number 19000E

Reopening Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh, Cailíní March 1st 2021

26th February 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school staff are really looking forward to welcoming our pupils, from Junior Infants to Second Class back to school on Monday, March 1st. The information below has been compiled with the sole purpose of keeping our school community as safe as we possibly can. New variants have made this disease so much more transmissible and extra vigilance is essential.

<u>Return to School Declaration</u>	Only pupils whose parents have completed the Return to School Declaration on the app may come to school on Monday next. Teachers on duty at the gates will have a list of those who have submitted the form. Please complete the form on the app at any time between 12.00noon on Saturday and 12.00noon on Sunday.
<u>Travel</u>	Children who have travelled or have been in contact with those who have travelled from outside the country should not attend school during the 14 day self-isolation period.
<u>Hand Hygiene</u>	All finger nails must be short and spotlessly clean and if nail varnish was applied during the break, it must be fully removed.
<u>Hair Hygiene</u>	Hair must, if possible be plaited, and if that is not possible, in a ponytail. Any child who has a shorter style should have a hair band.
<u>Tissues</u>	Children must have a packet of tissues in their school bags at all times.

<u>School Lunches</u>	Everything in the lunch box should be suitable for the child to open without the help of an adult.
<u>Illness</u>	A child who is showing any sign of illness should not be sent to school.
<u>Books and Copies</u>	On Monday, please place your daughter's books /copies in a plastic bag in her school bag. Ideally, a white bin liner type bag, if you have one. The contents of the bag will be left in a safe place in the school until Thursday, March 4 th when some will be selected for use in school and others for use at home.
<u>P.M. Readers or Big Cat Readers</u>	We have spent a significant amount of money buying sets of these books and if your child has been given some to read at home, please make sure they are returned.
<u>Pencil Cases</u>	Please make sure your child's pencil case is well stocked as no doubt there was a lot of pencil paring went on at home and items may also have been lost over the past two months.
<u>Naming and Labelling</u>	Every item must be named. Any lost/found unnamed items will have to be binned immediately.
<u>Health and Safety of those Dropping and Collecting Children</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Guardians must wear masks at all times when dropping and collecting. • Parents must stay 2m apart. • In order to give more space to parents at collection time, Second Class will be collected from the Allendale gate. If you have a child in both First and Second Class, then both should go to the Allendale Gate at 2.30p.m. • NO CHANGE IN THE DROP OFF POINTS WHEN COMING TO SCHOOL. GO TO THE SAME GATE AS YOU WENT TO IN TERM 1. • No change in Junior and Senior Infants routines.
<u>Outdoor Activities</u>	Children will spend a lot of time outdoors so no matter how sunny it is at 8.30a.m. everyone must have a hat and coat everyday.

Here in Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh, Cailíní, we are working exceedingly hard to put measures in place so that our school can re-open in a safe manner.

As we stated so many times during the first term, the responsibility of keeping COVID-19 out of our school is the responsibility of the whole school community. The measures our school have put in place will only work if our school community decides to take care of each other and also to co-operate with us in the implementation of these measures, as outlined in our Re-opening Plan Stage 1 which you received in August. Let's work together to keep our children in school and to keep all of us – children, parents, grandparents, childminders, school staff, our families and other vulnerable people we may know – free of COVID-19. Any relaxation of our measures could result in a COVID outbreak in our school, which no one wants.

Our Aim is to keep “S.S.N.C Covid Free”

There will undoubtedly be unforeseen challenges and these will be dealt with as they arise.

Some very important points to remember are:

- **No children on schoolyard before 8.35a.m**
- **Parents are asked not to attempt to give any messages/information to teachers/S.N.As on duty at the school gates. Adults' sole duty here is to ensure children enter the school grounds safely and to provide that special welcome for all our pupils each morning.**
- **If there is a day when you must share information with the school, please e mail Anne at admin@bishopstowngirlsschool.ie**
- All absences must be reported by on the first day of illness, using the school app.
- Each child will come to school with hands free and washed before leaving home, ready to sanitize with one bag on her back.
- Every item must be named clearly, uniform, pencils, books copies..... all unnamed items will be disposed of immediately for health and safety reasons.
- Parents are not allowed enter the school building and school grounds except at the invitation of the Principal to attend a meeting.
- You do not send your child to school if he/she is feeling unwell, displaying a cold, cough or flu-like symptoms in the morning. We have so often been told... *“Oh! but she really wanted to come”* you must remember, you are the adult and you must make the decisions. It won't always be easy.
- Any child who reports unwell in school, will be removed from the classroom immediately while we wait for an adult to collect her.
- **Please make sure all contact details are up to date and make sure your phone is turned on at all times.**
- Before school re-opens, please ensure you have practised correct hand washing techniques with your child. (<https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/how-to-wash-your-hands.html>)
- All soaps, sanitizers and paper towels will be provided by the school.
- Older children may wish to have a packet of disinfectant wipes in their bag if they see the need to wipe down the table in addition to the school's cleaning routines.

- Make sure that all lunch boxes and items in the lunch box can be opened without the assistance of an adult. e.g. if a child cannot open a banana, there is no point in giving one for lunch.
- Please make sure all lunch waste is removed from school bags each day. It would be a good idea to spray school bags with a dilute solution of Milton or similar type product regularly and allow to dry in the fresh air.
- Children will bring home all lunch waste as was the case pre Covid.
- All paper towels will be placed in pedal operated waste bins so young children should be able to dispose of towels in a pedal bin.
- We will ensure children get outdoor breaks each day. The outdoor classroom will ensure children can have an opportunity to spend an additional slot outdoors each day. We have invested in outdoor furniture to ensure children and adults get the maximum amount of fresh air.
- All school books and copies must have plastic coverings.
- **Homework will begin once books have been sorted into "school based" and "home based" books.**
- Children must not ask any child if they can borrow materials from one another.
- Uniforms will be worn on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Tracksuits on Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist you with laundering arrangements.
- Uniform= pinafore, shirt, bow tie/tie, cardigan, white ankle socks or black tights, black shoes. Knee socks are not part of the uniform.
- Track suit= Track suit top and bottom and white polo shirt and runners.
- **Please do not send your child to school in shorts until a direction is given when the weather improves.**
- Financial contributions/ payments: If payments must be made, all financial payments will have to be paid through Easy Payments. No cash/cheque transactions can be processed. Please do not send cash to school with children.
- Teachers will have Perspex screens on their tables. Please have a chat with your child to explain how this will help keep her and her teacher safe.
- All meetings with teachers must be by appointment and with prior approval of Principal. In so far as possible, all verbal communications with teachers should be via phone.
- There is an arrow system operating in the hallways and corridors. Please chat with your child about the importance of following the arrows and also to stand back to allow someone pass if space is limited.
- New terminology: Class = Bubble; Group of pupils within a class = Pod.
- In the yard each bubble will have a separate area.
- Please chat with your child about the importance of allowing other children space in the yard and not to, in any way, engage in games that would encroach on another pupil's personal space.
- **Pupils must not bring any sort of toys to school. We understand this may be difficult for infants. All school toys will be disinfected after use each day. No fluffy type keyrings attached to pencil cases or school bags. For older children, no watches or watch type devices, bracelets or rings to allow for thorough hand washing and sanitising. As per school rules one simple stud type ear ring is allowed in the lobe of each ear.**

And last but certainly not least, to all our S.S.N.C. girls, can I say we are so excited about having you back with us. It has been a long, long, time since you left for your Christmas holidays but that is not a problem at all. We will all be there to welcome you.

We will all look after one another, and help keep one another safe in every way possible and I am asking each girl to treat those around you with real kindness. It has been a hard time for many people but now that we will all be back together again, we hope we will see lots and lots of smiles on all your little faces.

Kind regards

C. Bean Uí Shúilleabháin

C. Bean Uí Shúilleabháin