



St. Ronan's Primary and Nursery School

34 – 36 Nutfield Road, Derryree, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh. BT92 0LA

10 Nov 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a very challenging week dealing with positive cases of Covid 19. I want to reassure everyone in the school community that we are continuing to implement and adhere to the guidelines from the Department of Education and the Public Health Agency.

As a result of positive Covid cases in the school, a deep clean was carried out by AAA Pristine Cleaning. On a daily basis the school is cleaned by our staff.

Other measures in place:

- Staggered start and finish times to prevent large groups gathering in the school grounds
- Children stay in class bubbles for learning, PE, play and lunchtime
- Children stay in their designated playground areas for play
- Children wash their hands five times per day using soap and water
- The ICT suite is cleaned after each class
- Children do not share learning materials in the classroom
- Each class has their own designated entrance and exit to avoid movement around the school
- Movement within the school building is strictly limited
- Parents / carers are asked to wear a face mask when dropping off and picking up children
- 2m social distance between adults
- Staff wear face masks when in corridors and when working in close proximity to individuals or groups
- Visitors to the school are kept to a minimum. Anyone who visits must complete a Health Declaration Form, sanitise their hands, sign in for Track and Trace purposes
- No assemblies are taking place
- School bags, books etc can move from school to home and vice versa according to PHA guidance
- A detailed risk assessment has been carried out and is updated regularly
- A child or adult who presents with symptoms on site is sent home immediately and advised to get a Covid test

The following are symptoms of Covid 19:

- A raised temperature
- A new and persistent cough
- A change in taste / or smell

If your child has any of these symptoms they must stay at home. A Covid test must be booked.

If the test is negative, children can return to school 48 hours after symptoms have disappeared.

If the test is positive, please inform the school immediately. The child must self-isolate for 10 days and those who have been in close contact must isolate for 14 days.

Procedure in school (a child or adult tests positive)

1. All close contacts will be immediately identified (those within 2m for more than 15mins)
2. A call will be made to the Education Authority Helpdesk and to the PHA Emergency line
3. Details of close contacts will be tabulated and forwarded to PHA
4. Close contacts will be informed immediately (this is the task of PHA with the school supporting this task)
5. Close contacts will be informed to self-isolate for 14 days from the date of the last contact with a positive case
6. The Education Authority Cleaning Service will be notified
7. A deep clean of an area of the school or the whole school will be undertaken
8. Once PHA returns a call, details of dates, close contacts etc will be discussed. In conjunction with the Principal, the PHA will inform what course of action is to be taken
9. Principal will await letters from the PHA to upload to the school website
10. As the system is overwhelmed, the school is taking all the actions immediately. The actions of informing close contacts are timely so as to prevent a further spread of Covid
11. A number of options are considered - individuals can be sent home from a class, partial shutdown of a class, complete closure of a class / number of classes, complete closure of the school. A risk assessment will highlight those considered in close contact and potential risk
12. We endeavour to ensure that we identify close contacts so as to minimise large numbers of children or adults self-isolating
13. If a child is sent home to self-isolate, other members of the family can continue to attend work and school. In the event of symptoms showing in other household members, they must self-isolate and book a Covid test

At no time will the school identify who has tested positive. This is confidential medical information of a child or adult.

In school we continue to closely monitor the situation and update our procedures and processes in order to keep everyone safe and healthy.

We ask for everyone in the community to adhere to messages from the NI Executive and the PHA.

I wish to thank everyone for their understanding and co-operation so far in these challenging times. The safety of everyone in our school community is our priority. I ask that you continue to work with us to help limit the spread of Covid 19.

Brian McGrath,

Principal