



9<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope you are all keeping well and safe.

I am delighted to welcome the pupils back to school next Monday following their Easter Holidays.

Public health informs us that 'schools are safe' and the evidence does show that transmission in schools, both to children and adults, has been very low compared to other settings. However, there can be no absolute guarantee that schools can be totally Covid-19 safe in relation to the spread of the virus in schools. The Board of Management of Coosan National School will continue to work to make our school as safe as possible through the stringent implementation of infection control measures and by putting key safety measures in place.

**Please ensure the following:**

1. You must complete the Return to Education Form (available on the school website [coosannationalschool.ie](http://coosannationalschool.ie)) in respect of your child returning to school. If your child is absent for any period after April 12<sup>th</sup> this form must be completed and returned to the school.
2. Please be mindful of congregating at the school and communication with the school must take place by phone or online.
3. Our school policy in relation to children with symptoms of COVID-19 is on our website under the COVID-19 INFO tab, if you wish to re-familiarise yourself with it.
4. Please do not send your child to school if they are close contacts of a person with COVID-19, are awaiting a test or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

When your child returns to school on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, please note the following:

**Lining up in the morning:**

- Please drop off your child in the same place as Term 2.
- The same staff will be on duty from 9.10am, similar to last term.
- Please wear masks at all times when on school property before and after school.
- Please 'drop and go' as you did prior to Easter.
- Junior Infants will continue to start school at 9.30 am and I ask, in the interest of health and safety, that these children come to school after 9.20 am.

**Yard Times:**

- Small break and lunch times will be as before.
- The same teachers will be on yard duty - similar to Term 2.
- Pupils will stay in the same bubbles as Term 2.

**Going Home:**

- Pupils will exit through the same doors as Term 2.
- Junior & Senior Infants will go home at 2.00pm.
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> classes will go home at 3.00pm.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> classes will go home at 3.10pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> classes will go home at 2.50pm
- Please collect your child and leave the school grounds immediately.
- Please do not congregate at this time.
- Please wear masks at all times.

**Cleaning:**

- The school has been thoroughly cleaned over the Easter Holidays.
- The school will be thoroughly cleaned each evening after school.

**School Bus:**

- Our school bus will operate as normal for Term 3.

**Return to Education Form:**

- Please find this form on the homepage of our website [coosannationalschool.ie](https://coosannationalschool.ie)
- Please complete this form and return via email or hard copy before April 12<sup>th</sup>. Hard copies will be collected from each class teacher on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- As per Department of Education guidelines, this form must be re-submitted to the class teacher following all absences from school.

**School Books:**

- Please ensure your child has all books/copies/stationary required on Monday morning. We advise that these books are left in your child's school bag, quarantined over the Easter Holidays.

The staff and I look forward to welcoming your child back to school on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Each of us need to take personal responsibility for our actions in relation to Covid-19 and we must all work together to ensure the safety of every child and adult in our school community.

Please see the following link for Back to School Advice for COVID-19 advice for you and your child on the Safe Return to School

<https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/5572b-back-to-school-advice-for-parents-students-and-families/>

While there is undoubtedly a long road ahead, there is hope that better times are imaginable with the availability of vaccines and the roll out of an inoculation programme. Together, we can make Coosan National School a safe environment for all our pupils and school staff.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries in relation to the re-opening of our school, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

*7. Flahive*

Principal.