

Scoil Íosagáin Hospital

Co. Limerick

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Dear Parent / Guardian, Staff Member,

I hope everyone has had a nice summer holiday. The Department of Education has instructed schools to start this new school year with the same procedures and protocols as were in place when we finished in June. As a result we will start back with the same set up as we had before the holidays. Below is a brief recap of our set up and we once again look for your co-operation in keeping everyone safe.

The school will be open from **8.45am** to allow children to assemble in their classrooms– Children enter the school by themselves and go straight to their classrooms. Class teachers will be in their class on a supervision basis until **9am when teaching begins**. Students upstairs (2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th class) have a separate **entry route** to school. This is through the emergency door at the bottom of the front stairs(beside the main front door). This door will be supervised and children can go straight upstairs and into their classrooms. A sanitising station will be at each point of entry.

-All other classes (Juniors, Seniors, 1st and 6th) can enter through either of the other doors used last year by students - either into the junior lobby area or straight in from the big yard. These entry areas will be supervised and children are to go straight to their classrooms downstairs. Entry to the school can take place at any stage in the 15 min period from 8.45 to 9. **It is very important that children are not dropped off or walk in to the school grounds before 8.45 and similarly it is important that pupils are not arriving after 9.** There is no “alphabetical” staggering of the opening times.

Special Arrangements for Junior Infant Class for the first two days.

For the first 2 weeks **Junior Infants** will finish at 12 noon. **For the first 2 days the Junior Infant start time will be 9.15 a.m** Parents are asked to enter the school grounds via the small gate near where the Lollipop Lady works. The class teacher will meet you near the entry door to the school.

- **Infant Home Time** (from Thurs Sept 9th for Junior Infants) will be 1.40pm – All parents are asked to distance themselves in the yard and your child will be allowed out to you once the teacher sees you. No entry to the school building during this time.

- **Remainder of School Home Time**- We will be staggering school finishing times for the first few weeks at least. **Families surnames beginning A – L will be finished at 2.30pm.** These children will be let out through either door in the same manner as last year – parents to wait outside school gate or in car if using “top car park”. **Families beginning with letters M- Z will be let out of school at 2.40pm**

in the exact same format. (If continuing with staggered finishing times then timings/groups will be reversed in due course)

- Students will be asked to use the hand sanitizer stations on entry and exit to the school.
- Break and lunch times will be staggered to allow each class their own yard area to play in.
- Children will be leaving all their books in school to begin with. Teachers will not be giving written homework for the first week.
- **It is essential to keep your child at home if they are displaying any Covid like symptoms.**

These new routines and procedures were designed to keep everyone safe and to prevent the spread of the virus. We would like to thank you for your co-operation last year and ask for the same again this year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back.

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 Mrs Marie O'Shea
Cathaoirleach, An Bhóird Bainistíochta

 Brendan Moloney
Príomhoide