



Scoil
Naomh Cualán
Borrisoleigh



Back to School Information for Children and Parents of Scoil Naomh Cualán



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The staff of Scoil Naomh Cualán are really looking forward to welcoming you all back to school. To ensure that our school is a safe place when you return, we have had to make some changes.

What the
children need
to know

1. You must only come to school if you are feeling well. If you are not feeling well, you must stay at home.



2. When you arrive at school in the morning, you must go straight to your line. You will all be told where to line up before your first day. Do not worry one bit as there will be someone there to guide you to your line.



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3. Your parents or childminders will not be able to come into the school with you this year. You will have to be dropped at the gate and you will then walk to your line on your own.



What the
children need
to know

4. To keep everyone safe, your class will be your bubble. This bubble will be divided into pods/small groups. Each pod will sit together. You will be in a pod with some of your friends. Of course you can still chat to all the other pods in the room but you won't be able to sit beside them.

When you come into the classroom in the morning/ after breaks, you walk straight to your pod and sit down. Out on the yard, it's important that you play with your class bubble in your allocated area of the yard.



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What the
children need
to know

5. Unfortunately, this year you won't be able to share with your friends so make sure you have your own pencil/ rubber/ topper/ ruler/ colours etc. with your name on them.



6. We know that lots of you love to bring in items from home like toys/ cards/ footballs etc. but this year you can only bring the items you really need to school.





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7. Keeping your hands nice and clean is so important! We must all wash or sanitize our hands regularly eg. when we come into school in the morning, before we eat, after coughing or sneezing, when we come in from the yard, after going to the toilet etc. There will be sanitizer in all classrooms and lots of soap and warm water to clean your hands. Can you remember how long we have to wash our hands for??? Yes, 20 seconds.



8. All the staff in Scoil Naomh Cualán are really looking forward to seeing you soon. While there are going to be lots of new changes, we will all get used to them in no time!



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What the
children need
to know



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What the
parents need
to know

We have been working on our plan for the safe reopening of the school for some weeks now and have published the DES COVID-19 Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of Scoil Naomh Cualán. We have also published our COVID-19 Policy Statement on the school website. Our BoM will keep you informed as to the progress of our re-opening plans and provide you with the information required by you to play your part in safely re-opening the school. We are really looking forward to welcoming our children back to school on the 31st of August and will be doing all that we can to ensure that the return to school is a safe and enjoyable experience for the children.

While all children will be welcome back to school, we would remind parents that, where children are displaying colds, coughs or flu like symptoms, they should not be sent to school. "If in doubt, keep them out". Children who display such symptoms in school will be isolated and parents asked to collect them from the school. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date and that there will be someone available to collect your child should they need to go home. This is extremely important, thank you.

Children who have travelled from countries not on the Green List should not attend school during the 14-day self-isolation period



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The school day will begin at 9am. Children should not enter the school grounds before 8.50am. Juniors will finish school at 12pm for the first two weeks and after that they will finish at 1.35pm. Seniors will finish at 1.40pm, 1st class at 2.35pm, 2nd class at 2.40pm, Le Chéile 1 and 2 at 2.30pm, 3rd class at 2.30pm, 4th and 5th class at 2.35pm and 6th class at 2.40pm. All bus children will leave at 2.30pm.

Measures to
keep your child
safe

All children are to be dropped to the school gate in the morning as close as possible to the school starting time. When dropping children to the gate, please observe social distancing and do not congregate at the gate as space is very limited.

Throughout the school there will be hand sanitizers which the children will be required to use regularly.

Classes will be confined to mixing with their own class or bubble. At breaktimes, each bubble must play together in their allocated area on the yard. In each classroom the bubble will be divided into different pods/ groups. From third to sixth class, each pod will be a distance of one metre from the other pods. There will be two morning breaks and two lunch breaks to allow for social distancing on the yard.

There will be no sharing of stationery between children. All children need to have their own pencils, rubbers, toppers, ruler etc. Please ensure all childrens' belongings are labelled.



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Children who become ill in school will be isolated and parents asked to collect them from the school. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date and that there will be someone available to collect your child should they need to go home.

Regular cleaning will take place in the school. Surfaces will be disinfected daily and shared equipment will be sanitized after every use.

Measures to
keep your child
safe

Please ensure that all children have plenty to drink in school every day as they will not be allowed to re-fill their bottle from the taps in school. All lunch boxes and bottles should be washed thoroughly on a daily basis.

Homework will not be assigned for the first few weeks of September. The focus for the month of September will be the wellbeing of the children and allowing children to re-adjust to school life.

Adults within the school shall observe social distancing where possible.



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This year adults should not enter the school building without making prior arrangements with the school secretary.

Should an outbreak occur, the school will follow the protocols of the HSE and DES.

We, in Scoil Naomh Cualan have done all we can to ensure that we are fully prepared for a safe return to school.

Measures to
keep your child
safe



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1. Take your child's temperature every morning before coming to school.
2. Ensure your child does not come to school if they have any of the symptoms of Covid-19.
3. Do not allow your child to bring personal belongings into school which are not necessary for the school day.
4. Do not enter the school grounds unless you have made an appointment by contacting the school secretary.
5. Do not congregate around the school gate in the mornings.

How can you
help?



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For parents, children, teachers and staff it is a daunting time. We understand that you may feel anxious about your child's return to school. We are now living in a 'new normal'. However, we have put in place all the precautions necessary so you can be assured that your child will return to a safe and welcoming classroom. If you have any concerns, please contact the school and we will do our very best to ease your worries. We are delighted to welcome back all the children of Scoil Naomh Cualán and we assure you that we will look after each and every one of them as if they were our own.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

**MY CHECK LIST FOR
EVERY CLASS THIS
YEAR**

1. Keep them safe
2. Lower their anxiety about the current situation
3. Make them laugh
4. Make them feel loved
5. Teach them something

All in that order

