



Glenasmole National School

Bohernabreena,
Dublin D24 YC57

Phone: 01 462 4143

E-mail: office@glenasmolens.com

21st August 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are all keeping well. As you know, we have been working away getting the school ready to welcome the children back on 1st September. This letter will outline details of what you will need to know. The board of management has prepared a full Covid-19 Response plan and policy which is available on our school website. Some of these procedures will feel strange, but they are all designed to implement the guidance of increasing physical distance and decreasing interaction between all members of the school community, in order to keep us all safe. We may need to adjust some of our procedures as we go along. The following are the relevant parts of the Response Plan for you to note:

Who should be in school?

All children should return to school on 1st September as per government guidelines. Children should not attend school if they are sick or if they have:

- a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
- any other [common symptoms of coronavirus](#) - a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath
- been in [close contact](#) with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus
- been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus
- are observing quarantine regulations following travel abroad

Arrival at school

Drop off is between 9.05 and 9.20am. Absolutely no children can enter school grounds before 9.05am. Children enter the school gate, go to the blue door and walk directly to their classroom, keeping their coat with them. The class teacher will arrange hand sanitising and coat hanging, so that there will be no congestion in the hallway.

Parents are asked not to stay at the school gate and to move their cars away as soon as possible from the parking area, to allow for a smooth drop-off process. Car-pooling is not recommended. Walking and cycling are recommended. The school bus will operate and Bus Eireann will communicate procedures to families accessing this service.

What to bring to school

- First day - bring books, pencil case, lunch bag & coat. (Infants only have lunch bag and coat)
- Second day on (for first weeks) - bring lunch bag & coat only
- Wear school uniform Mon, Tues, Thurs and school tracksuit Weds & Fri as before

Lunch

Parents are asked to provide an easy to open lunch bag/box/bottle, with easy to eat items. Children need to be able to manage all of their lunch items without help from a teacher or another child. Any waste/unused item is to be brought home again.

Home time

Parents approach gate maintaining 2m distance. Stay at your car if there are too many parents at the gate and wait for space to approach the gate. Children line up in the school yard. Teachers will send the children to the gate when they see their parent/minder. Bus will not be at the gate at the same time as children exiting. All are asked to leave the gate area and the parking area as soon as possible. Families will leave the school at the same time, so no need to wait for other classes to come out. If parents are late children wait in school yard - coat is essential. No return to school building.

- 1.50pm - Infants
- 2.35pm - 1st & 2nd and siblings
- 2.45pm - 3rd & 4th and siblings
- 2.50pm - 5th & 6th

What will be happening at school?

The school day will be in many ways unchanged and the children will engage in most activities that they are familiar with. As per government guidelines, children will learn about ways to keep themselves safe from Covid-19 through handwashing, sanitising, cough and sneeze etiquette and physical distancing. There will be a focus on wellbeing and physical activity. The consistent use of groups within classes will reduce the number of children each child interacts with. Older children will sit 1m apart. Teachers will use visors and screens. Cleaning procedures have been enhanced.

What if I need to speak to the class teacher or visit the school?

Appointments must be arranged for any visit of a parent to the school. The use of email and phone are the most suitable ways to make contact with the school. If you need to collect your child early from school, you will need to fill out a form (available on our website) and email it to the school at least a day in advance. You should not enter the school building to collect a child. Please ring the doorbell and wait outside. Your child will be sent or brought to the door. If you enter the school building, you will need to complete a Contact Tracing form, sanitise your hands, wear a mask and maintain 2m distance from any person.

Payment of Book Rental money etc

To avoid interaction and limit the movement of items between home and school, we are putting in place an e-payments system for the payment of Book Rental monies etc. We'll let you know when this system is in place, so please don't send in any money with your child at the moment.

Many thanks to all of the people who have been helping to set up the school so that we can return to regular lessons for everyone's sake. Thanks especially to the teachers who worked so hard to keep lessons going online since March. We are hoping not to have to return to that system, but as you know the Covid-19 situation is constantly changing.

We are really looking forward to seeing the children again and to connecting with everyone in the school community. If you have any further questions, please take a look at the documents on the website and if you need to, please feel free to email me further queries.

With kind regards,

Mary McColgan, Principal

Preparing for School September 2020 Checklist for Parents

My child:	
1. Is not unwell	
2. Does not have a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more	
3. Does not have any other common symptoms of coronavirus - a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath	
4. Has not been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus	
5. Has not been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus	
6. Is not observing quarantine regulations following travel abroad	
My child can bring to school (first day bring books and pencil case also 1st-6th class)	
Lunch Bag and Coat only, with easy open items	
I have arranged to drop off and collect my child following school procedures	
1. I know to leave my child at the school gate from 9.05-9.20am	
2. I know to keep 2m distance from all others, to leave as quickly as possible and not to enter school grounds except by appointment with the school	
3. I know the time to collect my child/children from school 1.50pm Infants 2.35pm 1st & 2nd and siblings 2.45pm 3rd & 4th and siblings 2.50pm 5th & 6th	

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe and well