

Dear Parents/Guardians.

First of all, a big thank you to all parents and children for your cooperation in helping us to reopen our school safely. We know it hasn't been easy and your patience is really appreciated.

As you know we must strictly follow the government guidelines to reduce the risk of spreading Covid-19 in our school. These guidelines say that we cannot have crowds gathering anywhere in the school, especially at the gates and that we must all remain socially distant.

We are very lucky in Scoil Padre Pio to have so many different exits and yard spaces to allow us to be socially distant. This also means that we haven't had to stagger drop-off and collection times, which would be really difficult for a lot of parents.

We do realise that it is difficult for parents of more than one child to have to go to different areas to collect their children but it is the only safe way to do it at the moment so we ask for your continued patience and cooperation. Teachers will stay with your child until you get there so do not worry.

- **PLEASE do NOT** walk through the yard to collect your child from another exit. You **MUST** walk around the outside of the school

From Monday 7th onward, staff will be at the entrances until 9am. **If you arrive later than 9am you must drop your child at the main entrance on Churchfield Terrace (Loretta's office)**

School lunches will be provided from Monday. You will receive a code next week to allow you to change your child's lunch order online. Any new orders will be delivered the following Monday.

PLEASE NOTE:

Face Coverings:

- It is **not** recommended that children wear face coverings in school
- Teachers will be wearing either face masks or face visors in the classroom and while moving around the school grounds.
- Any parents who are entering the school building **must wear a facemask**
- It is recommended that **parents wear face coverings** when gathering in the yard to collect children.

Junior and Senior Infants can be dropped to the door of the school/prefab. **ALL** other children (1st-6th class) must be dropped at the gate

Junior Infants: Parents must drop their child at the school door from next week onwards. A teacher will be there to take them from you

DROP OFF & COLLECTION TIMES:

Síolta: Children can be dropped to the door of their prefab and collected from the door by a parent or escort. Teachers will be in contact with Síolta parents regarding specific times and with taxi information.

Senior Infants:

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Parents can drop children to the door of the Senior Infant prefabs in the main school yard
- Children can be collected at 1.30pm. Please wait on the main yard and your child will walk to you.
- Please keep a safe distance from other parents while waiting in the yard

First Class (Mr. O' Neill/Ms. Stevenson):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Children can be dropped off at the Lift entrance on Day 1 (this is the white part of the building above the main yard and prefabs). From Day 2 onwards children must walk themselves in from the gate.
- Children can be collected at 2.30pm at the Lift entrance. The teacher will bring the children out side. Please wait in the yard and your child will walk to you.
- Please keep a safe distance from other parents while waiting in the yard

Second Class 1 (Ms. Murphy):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Children can be dropped off at the Lift entrance on Day 1 (this is the white part of the building above the main yard and prefabs). From Day 2 onwards children must walk themselves in from the gate.
- Children can be collected at 2.30pm at the Lift entrance. The teacher will bring the children out side. Please wait in the yard and your child will walk to you.
- Please keep a safe distance from other parents while waiting in the yard

Second Class 2 (Mr. Bell):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Children can be dropped off at the entrance by the blue school hall on Day 1 (this is the door between the old yellow building and the school hall at the top of the wheelchair ramp). From Day 2 onwards children must walk themselves in from the gate.
- Children can be collected at 2.30pm from the same entrance. The teacher will bring the children out side. Please wait in the yard and your child will walk to you.
- Please keep a safe distance from other parents while waiting in the yard

Third Class (Mr. Clancy/Mr. O' Donovan):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- They must enter the school through the Churchfield Hill gate and walk to the large prefab there.

- At 2.30pm the children will walk out the Churchfield Hill gate, please collect your child on the Hill as parents are not allowed past the gate.

Fourth Class (Mr. O' Connor/Mr. Doolan):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Children must enter the school through the main entrance (on Churchfield Terrace/by the Secretaries Office). Parents must leave children at the gate on Churchfield Terrace
- At 2.30pm the children will leave using this exit also and can be collected on Churchfield Terrace. Parents are asked to stay outside the gate and to keep their distance from each other.

Fifth & Sixth Class (Ms. Leo/Mr. W. Casey/Ms. Whelton/Mr. D. Casey):

- Children can be dropped to school from 8.30am to 8.50am, they will be supervised by a teacher in their classroom
- Children must enter school by the entrance by the blue school hall, at the top of the wheelchair ramp.
- Children will leave at 2.30pm via the same exit and walk out through the main yard. If you are collecting your child, please wait on the main yard and keep your distance from other parents

What Should Your Child Bring to School?

Stationery

- Your child can bring their own pencil case containing the usual supplies (pencils, rubber, ruler, colours etc.) This can stay in school for September as there will be no homework for the first month of school
- There is no need to bring copies/paper etc.
- **Please make sure everything is labelled with your child's name**

Uniforms/Tracksuits

- Children can wear their tracksuits on Monday/Wednesday/Friday and wear their uniforms on Tuesday/Thursday.
- **Please make sure everything is labelled with your child's name**

Lunches

- Children must bring their own lunch for the first week of school. Parents can then order their school lunches which will be provided from Week 2 onwards.
- Children must bring their own drink to school in a bottle which is labelled with their name

Covid-19 Regulations and Your Child:

At Scoil Padre Pio we will follow the governments Public Health guidelines and the Dept. of Education's guidance on reopening schools (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a0bff-reopening-our-primary-and-special-schools/>). In accordance with these guidelines the following measures will be in place;

- Children will sanitise their hands on arrival at school, before eating, after using the toilet, after yard times etc.
- Our classrooms have been set up to ensure physical distance
- Children from Junior Infants to Second class are not expected to social distance within the classroom and as such will be able to play with all members of their class.
- Classes from 3rd-6th will be considered separate 'bubbles' and will be kept apart at break times
- Yard times will be staggered to ensure that 'bubbles' don't mix

More information is available in our Covid-19 Response Plan and Policy (<http://scoilpadrepio.com/Covid19.html>)

What if I need to speak to a Teacher?

- Meeting a teacher will be strictly by appointment only
- An appointment must be made, by phone, through the school secretary
- If you make an appointment to meet a staff member you must wear a face covering and complete the school's contact tracing paperwork when entering the building.

What if my child feels sick in the morning?

- Please keep your child at home if they are showing symptoms of Covid-19

Please check the HSE website for the symptoms of Covid-19

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/symptoms.html>

- If your child is in school and displays Covid symptoms you will be contacted immediately and we will follow the HSE isolation guidelines <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/59843-dealing-with-a-suspected-case-of-covid-19/>

Thank you all for your cooperation and understanding during this difficult period for everybody. Our main objective is to keep our school open for as long as we can and we can only do this by keeping everybody safe and well. If we all follow the guidelines that are in place this should help us to achieve our goal.