



Plan for Re-opening of CBS Primary

Underlying Principles

- The school has a responsibility to make effort to ensure the safety, health and well-being of all members of our school community – children, parents and staff. This plan has been formulated to better ensure that the school can exercise that duty of care.
- Assuming it is in keeping with public health advice and guidelines issued by the Department of Education and Skills, it is preferable for all children to return to school for all five days of the school week and for a full school day. This plan has been formulated to achieve that aim.
- It is not possible to eliminate the risk of infection. However, with the co-operation of all members of our school community, it is possible to minimise the risk of the virus being introduced to school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- As well as co-operation, the flexibility and goodwill of all will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

Assumptions

- All children return to school and classes operate within a bubble system
- The school is split into 2 groups with different starting times, break times, lunch times and finishing times. The groups are different based on the different relevant criteria during the day and the groups are made to reduce the numbers engaged in a necessary activity at a particular time.
- **Morning groups** – For arrivals, families with the eldest child in 3rd-6th are asked to arrive to school from 8.20-8.35am. Families with the eldest child in Junior infants-2nd class are asked to arrive from 8.35-8.50am. Although school officially begins at 8.40am, it is expected that lessons will begin by 9am due to the lengthier time needed for safety and hygiene.
- **Breaktime Groups** – Group A includes, Junior Infants, 1st, 3rd and 5th classes. Group B includes Senior Infants, 2nd, 4th and 6th classes. The Language Class teacher will decide the appropriate allocation for the language students.
- **Home time Groups** – Walkers, cyclists and park & striders will go on the home time bell. Children being picked up by car will wait for 5-10 more minutes before leaving. Some class groups may have further local arrangements to improve the efficiency and safety of their daily exit.
- Within each class from 3rd to 6th, the children will be further divided into pods, with a minimum distance of 1 metre being maintained between pods
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms



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Timetables

Timetable for Group A	Timetable for Group B
8.50 – School start	8.50 – School start
10.00 – Break time	10.20 – Break time
10.10 – Class resumes	10.30 – Class resumes
11.30 – Lunch time	12.20 – Lunch time
12.00 – Class resumes	12.50 – Class resumes
1.25 – Infant classes finish	1.25 – Infant classes finish
2.25 – 1 st – 6 th Classes finish	2.25 – 1 st – 6 th Classes finish

Key to Entrances & Exits

Entrance and Exit Points	Number
Front left of school	1
Main Central Entrance	2
Front right of school	3
Halla – Glass exit	4
Back Exit of 3 storey building (Fergus Park side)	5
Back Central Exit (Fergus Park side)	6
Gable end Exit (facing New Road)	7

- Arrivals – Doors open and supervised entry from 8.20am. Children will enter the school directly and not linger on the yard.
 - All children on the first floor – 1
 - All infant classes and top floor students – 2
- Breaktimes –
 - Exit and entry through 1, 2 and 3
 - All exit points will have hand sanitiser so other exits may be used by local arrangement if necessary to improve social distancing



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- We ask for co-operation with these times as it will mean that the numbers congregating on school grounds at any one time will be minimised.
- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by email to the appropriate _____class@cbsennis.com , or by phoning the school office.

End of School Day

- Adults, who are collecting their children from school at the end of the day, should wait outside near the exit point for their child.
- We ask waiting adults to wear masks and remain socially distanced from each other
- We ask for there to be one adult per household only onsite for collection

Collection of Children during the School Day

The school will remain closed to all traffic from 9am until 5 minutes after collection time for Infants and Senior classes.

However, if an adult has to collect a child during the course of the school day, the following arrangements will apply

- When the adult arrives at the school, they should either phone the office or use the intercom at the front door of the school to alert the office that they have arrived
- The child will be brought from their class to the adult by a member of staff
- The adult who is collecting will be asked to sign the child out
- No adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so

Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19

Pupils should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If a pupil displays symptoms of Covid-19 while in the building, the following are the procedures will be implemented:

- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately
- The child will be accompanied to the designated isolation area via the isolation route by a member of staff. The staff member will remain at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic child and will also make sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic child at all times
- A mask will be provided for the child presenting with symptoms, if one is available. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises
- An assessment will be made as to whether the child who is displaying symptoms can immediately be brought home by parents and call their doctor and continue self-isolation at home
- The school will facilitate the child presenting with symptoms to remain in isolation, if they cannot immediately go home, and will assist them by calling their GP.
- The child presenting with symptoms should be advised to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and to put the tissue in the waste bag provided
- If the child is well enough to go home, the school will arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible, and advise them to inform their GP by phone of their symptoms. Public transport of any kind should not be used



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- If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, the school will contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick child is a Covid-19 suspect.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.

The HSE will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed.

Children who should not attend school

If your child is in one of the following categories, they should not attend school –

- Children who have been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children who have been in contact with a person who has a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school
- Children who have returned home after travelling abroad and must self-isolate for a period of 14 days
- Children who are generally unwell

Supporting the Learning of Children who cannot attend school

If a child is not able to attend school for an extended period of time, the class teacher (and/or the learning support teacher, where relevant) suggested activities to support the child's learning at home will be shared with parents.

Impact of a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Covid-19 in a Class

If the school is notified that a person in your child's class has a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19

- The parents of all children in the class will be notified
- Public health advice will be sought and followed

Hand Hygiene

- Good hand hygiene and coughing etiquette will be a priority issue to be taught and practiced in every class.
- Extra time will be given over every day to practising good hand hygiene
- A box of tissues will be available in every teacher's room
- Teachers will disinfect desks and door handles twice per day (the second one after the children leave for home). Gloves, cloths and handheld antibacterial cleaner will be provided in every classroom, SET room and other places where people congregate.

Personal Equipment

- In so far as possible, it is requested that children from 1st to 6th Class will bring their own pens, pencils, colours, rubbers, etc., to school in their own pencil case to avoid the sharing of equipment.



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- It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.
- All children should bring a washbag contents should include:
 - Small face towel to school for drying of hands after handwashing
 - Their mask if they wish to bring one to school
 - Alternative hand sanitiser if they find the school brands harsh on their skin
- It is not advisable for children under 13 to wear masks. However, if capable of putting it on themselves, and if deemed necessary by their parents, children are permitted to wear masks when in transit from one part of the school to another. They will be asked to keep the mask in their pocket while on yard and in their washbag when in class.

Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in Infant classrooms. Cleaning of such shared equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

Yards

Each class will have their own designated yard space for use during breaks. There are 12 designated spaces, keeping the staggering of breaks to 2 groups:

- Astro-turf – X4 spaces for JI, X2 for all other class groups
- Basketball Court – X2
- Senior Yard – X2
- Soft play area – X1 junior end class
- Bricked area in front of the school building – X1
- Drop off Zone – X2
- Halla – X2

The structure and assignment of yard spaces may be adjusted as needs arise.

Traditional yard spaces will be timetabled for use by classes outside of breaktimes to afford as much opportunity as possible for the children to get outside.

Learning Support

In keeping with our Special Education policy, learning support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal. The provision of support will be organised to ensure our support teachers will work within the confines of a bubble.

- Where a support teacher is working alongside a class teacher in a classroom, both teachers must be mindful of maintaining social distance from one another.
- Where children from 3rd to 6th Class receive support in one of the SET rooms, social distancing of 1 metre will be maintained between each child in the group.
- The tables and chairs in SET rooms will be wiped clean in between different groups attending



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PPE

While it is not envisaged that PPE will be worn by staff in general, staff who are attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid will wear appropriate PPE including gloves and face masks.

Teacher Absence and Substitution

In the event that teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. If a substitute teacher is not available, it is not appropriate for the class to be divided into groups and accommodated in other classes.

PE

Where possible, PE should take place outdoors and use of equipment should be confined to the sets that have been distributed to class groupings. If the PE hall is being used by class groupings, common touch points should be cleaned at intervals throughout the school day.

Extra-curricular Activities

The possibility of facilitating extra-curricular activities will be explored. However, it will be more difficult for children from different bubbles would participate in extra-curricular activities at the same time. The school will begin cautiously in this regard.