



# St John the Baptist BNS

## Return to School Weds 1 Sept 2021 - Summary for Parents

This summary is based on the school's detailed Covid-19 Response Plan (to be published on website in advance of reopening)



School reopens on **Weds 1 Sept for ALL pupils @9.20am**. Assembly between 9 and 9.20am & straight to classrooms as per detailed response plan. Juniors\* & Seniors finish at 2pm, 1st to 3rd at 2.45pm and 4th to 6th at 3pm (\*Special arrangements for Junior Infants for the first two weeks).



Detailed drop off & collection arrangements as per response plan - text will follow when published. Surname A-L from 9-9.10am & surname M-Z from 9.10-9.20am. Pupils go directly to their classroom via assigned doors (A, B, C, D or E). At collection, Infants and First Class parents only inside the school wall, waiting on coloured dots. Absolutely no congregating outside the school and everyone must wear a mask in the vicinity of the school while observing social distancing.



Pupils are encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle to school. If driving, please drop & go where/when appropriate. The temporary car park remains in place for staff cars to help parents with traffic flow & physical distancing at drop off & pick up. Note that both car parks are for staff only & are never to be used for pedestrian access.



There will be no access to the classrooms for parents or visitors. Parents & staff to communicate via phone, email or online platforms.



If you need to collect a child during school hours, please inform the class teacher in advance. Come to the office at the appointed time - wearing a mask - and a staff member will collect your child from his classroom.



All staff have been asked to refamiliarise themselves with relevant Covid training and the revised DES Response Plan (August '21).



We will continue to prioritise outdoor learning where possible. Tracksuits days are Mon, Weds & Fri for J1 to 2nd and Tues & Thurs for 3rd to 6th.



Dept of Education good ventilation practices in place. Windows will be open. Children need to be dressed warmly and bring a coat every day.



Staff will wear a mask at all times. Children don't have to wear a mask as per public health advice, but may do so if they so wish.



The hand washing and sanitising routines established last year will continue. We will remain extra vigilant about this.



Pupils must self-isolate or restrict their movements at home if they display any symptoms of COVID-19.

Pupils should not return to school in the event of the following:

1. If they are identified by the HSE as a close contact/confirmed case.
2. If they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus.

(Note that we're awaiting guidance from government/public health in relation to overseas travel and returning to school)



If showing symptoms in school, a pupil will be isolated and parents called. Parents will contact their GP to arrange a test. The response to confirmed cases or outbreaks is the responsibility of and will be led and managed by Public Health HSE.



Each class is one bubble & divided into pods/groups.



Contact between classes/bubbles will be minimal, even at breaks. All groups/pods within bubbles are at least 1m apart. Pods will mix for differentiated work & in the playground. Pods will be changed monthly or where deemed necessary by the class teacher.



All pupils must have an individual pencil case with labelled stationery which will be kept in school. Children must not share their belongings.



Any shared classroom resources will be wiped down between uses. The classes will be vigorously cleaned daily as part of our enhanced cleaning regime.



School bag & books brought back on Weds 1 Sept. There are no restrictions on school bags this year. Pencil case & certain books will, however, stay in school. Reusable bottle and lunchbox to be washed nightly.



No physical homework until Monday 13 September but Class Dojo (all classes) will be used to post photographs of happy(!) back to school boys. Google Classroom will be used alongside Class Dojo from 3rd to 6th. It remains an anxious time. Wellbeing resources for parents to support your children available by clicking [here](#).