

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Everyone in Scoil Lios Teilic is looking forward to welcoming our pupils back to school. We have been working very hard during the past weeks to ensure that we are ready to reopen on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

You will receive a number of letters from us before our return keeping you informed of what is happening and also what you and your child/ren can expect on return to school. This letter will outline physical distancing, safe school attendance and information on uniforms.

### **Physical Distancing**

We have ensured that there will be as much physical distancing as is possible in our school buildings. Physical distancing will be achieved in two ways:

**Increasing separation:** The classrooms have been re-configured to maximise physical distancing. Each class will be referred to as a bubble and we will ensure that there is as little contact as possible between children in different bubbles (classes). Within the bubbles children will be organised into pods. A pod is a group of children who will sit together and who will stay in their pod while in the bubble/classroom.

**Decreasing interaction:** This will be achieved by decreasing the potential for children from different bubbles to interact. As all classrooms in our school have a separate entrance, each bubble will enter and exit their classroom through their own door. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> are the only classes that have a shared entry door and this will be monitored by their class teachers. Bubbles will not mix in the playground and there will be two sos times and two lunch times to facilitate separating the classes.

### **Safe Attendance**

**While all children are welcome back to school, we ask parents that where children are displaying colds, coughs or flu like symptoms they should not be sent to school. Children who display such symptoms in school will be isolated and parents asked to collect them from school.**

**Children who have travelled from countries not on the Green list must not attend school until the 14 day self-isolation period has passed.**

Further information on Covid-19 symptoms in children is available at:

<https://www.2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/if-your-child-has-symptoms.html>

Teachers will make children aware of the proper hygiene procedures regarding hand washing and etiquette related to sneezing, coughing or spitting. We would be grateful if you could also emphasise safe behaviour in this regard to your child/ren at home as part of the preparation for returning to school.

**Uniforms** Pupils may wear their school uniform or PE tracksuit to school. There are no assigned days on which to wear the tracksuit. This is to facilitate parents in washing the uniforms. We strongly advise that children should wear their school uniforms or tracksuits **only for school related activities.** Uniforms or tracksuits should be taken off straight after the child arrives home from school.

Our aim remains to re-open the school in an orderly safe manner, while reassuring the children and making them feel comfortable, safe and relaxed with their friends in the new school environment. This will be achieved by all of us working towards this common goal.

**Frances Day**  
**Chairperson, BOM**

**Annette Dineen**  
**Príomhoide**