



Educate
Together



**Cherrywood Educate
Together National
School
Covid-19 Logistics Plan**

Underlying Principles

- The staff of Cherrywood ETNS 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 will come to school.
- The day will include 1 x 10 minute break and 1 x 30 minute break.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points in the three prefabs.

School Timetable

Daily Timetable
8.50am – School start
10.20am – Break time
10.30am – Class resumes
12:00pm – Lunch time
12.30pm – Class resumes
1.30pm – Infant classes finish

Parents are asked not to arrive at the school any earlier than 8.30am in order to reduce the risk of groups congregating in the school yard.

Key to Entrances & Exits

Entrance and Exit Points	Number
Admin block door	1
Classroom Door	2
General Purpose Class Door	3

Junior Infant Schedule September 2020*

Wednesday 2nd September 2020 – Friday 4th September 2020

Start Time: 8.50am

Finish Time: 11.30am

Monday 7th September 2020 – Friday 11th September 2020

Start Time: 8.50am

Finish Time: 12.30pm

Monday 14th September onwards

Start time: 8:50am

Finish Time: 1:30pm

***Please note we are open to parental feedback on this**

- We ask for co-operation with these times as it will mean that the numbers congregating outside the school grounds and in the lobby at any one time will be minimised.
- Teachers will collect the children from the yard.
- Parents are asked to maintain social distancing while bringing their children to school and collecting their children from school.
- The class teacher will invite the children to enter the building via their designated entrance point at the appropriate time.
- No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building, unless an appointment has been made, and then only in exceptional circumstances.
- Messages for teachers can be sent by email, 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 in the yard ensuring that 2m social distance is maintained.
- When the school day for the class is over, the class teacher will bring the children to the school gate and will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them.

Collection of Children during the School Day

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

- Please call or email the school in advance to let us know that you will be collecting the child early.
- 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.

Hygiene and Cleaning

Staff will ensure that all children are aware of the proper hygiene procedures regarding hand washing and etiquette related to sneezing and coughing. We would be grateful if you could also emphasise safe behaviour in this regard to your children at home as part of the preparation for returning to school.

Hand sanitising will take place frequently through out the day including but not limited to:

- As the children enter the school/classroom
- After handling materials
- Before eating
- After returning from yard
- Before leaving

In accordance with DES guidance, the school will be cleaned regularly. Particular attention will be given to frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, chairs, sink and toilet facilities.

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 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. 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.

- 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 possibly has Covid-19.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.
- The school has a thermometer and can take a child's temperature if necessary.

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, 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 by the HSE
- Public health advice will be sought and followed

Personal Equipment

- In so far as possible, all equipment and resources will be provided in school and should not be brought in from home - the school will provide a container which will hold each child's pencils, crayons, etc., and which will be labelled with their name.
- To reduce the amount of times that staff members come in direct contact with your child's belongings, we ask that all children have a school bag and a lunch box which they can open and close by themselves as far as possible.
- All children are asked to leave a coat in school. Parents/ Guardians will be asked to bring home the coats their child comes to school in.
- Parents/ Guardians are also asked to bring in a complete set of wet gear for their child to encourage outdoor play as much as possible.
- It is further requested that all items have the child's name on them for ease of identification.

Shared Equipment

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including 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

The yard will be supervised by an adult at all times.

PE and Aistear

PE and Aistear will take place outdoors as much as possible. We request that each family would send in a complete set of waterproof clothing so this can be achieved.

Additional Educational Needs

Additional educational support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal.

- Where a Special Education Teacher is working alongside a class teacher in a classroom, both teachers must be mindful of maintaining social distance from one another.
- The tables and chairs in SET area will be wiped clean in between different pupils attending.

PPE

Appropriate PPE will be available for dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19, intimate care needs and for First AID. Where staff provide healthcare to children with medical needs in the school environment, they will apply standard precautions as per usual.

Staff members will be required to wear face masks when a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained. We are, however, very mindful that we are working with very young children and children with Special Educational Needs. If a staff member finds that the mask and/or visor is distressing a child or making it very difficult for them to learn, we will review this situation.

Teacher Absence and Substitution

In the event that a 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, the class will be taught by the Special Education teacher or the Principal.

Teaching and Learning

As a staff, we are very aware that the children have been out of the school environment since March.

Each child will be in a different place in relation to his/her learning and we wish to assure you that staff have taken that into consideration when planning for Teaching and Learning during the 2020/2021 school year. We will be focussing initially on wellbeing and getting used to new routines.

Wellbeing of the School Community

The wellbeing of our whole school community is very important to us. With that in mind, we will work on the recommended five principles to support the wellbeing of our children and staff.

- A sense of safety
- A sense of calm
- A sense of belonging and connectedness to school
- A sense of self-efficacy and school-community efficacy
- A sense of hope

We hope that this document will reassure our school community that we can reopen our school as safely as possible. We would like to thank our school community for your continued support of Cherrywood Educate Together National School.