

Coolfancy National School

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Roll No. 18118W

23rd August, 2021.

Dear Parent / Guardian,

The BoM and the School Leadership Team have been working to ensure a safe return to school for all pupils and staff.

I am attaching a Return To Educational Facility Declaration Form which must be completed and handed to each class teacher by your child on Thursday morning and I will send a reminder text to all parents about this on Wednesday as it is very important that these forms are returned. I will leave hard copies of this form in the church lobby in case some parents don't have access to a printer.

Coolfancy NS appreciates your support as we try to safely reopen the school building. If at all possible we request you not to come onto the school grounds or into the school building unless it is essential. We appreciate that some parents may wish to walk their Junior/Senior Infant child to the school gate but for the older pupils a drop off at the school car park is desirable. Working together we hope to be able to progress the reopening in as safe a manner as possible for all.

We would ask all parents to familiarise themselves with the new drop-off and collection times and we would kindly ask you to please observe these times.

It is imperative that

- adults do not come within 2m of each other
- parents do not try to have meetings with members of staff in the playground at drop-off and collection times – meetings between parents and teachers can only take place by prior arrangement. (This may have to be more restrictive depending on guidance - it is quite possible that the recommendation will be for remote meetings/telephonic communications.)
- all parents adhere to the drop-off and collection plans as outlined below

School Start and Finish times

School will begin at 9.00am for ALL pupils and pupils must not be on site any earlier than 8:50

School will finish at 1:40pm for Junior and Senior Infants and 2:40pm for all other pupils.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FIRST 2 WEEKS FOR JUNIOR INFANTS ONLY

Please Note: As per the usual arrangement Junior Infants will go home at 12.15pm each day for the first 2 weeks only. After that they will revert to the normal going home time of 1:40pm

Please note the entry and exit points for each classroom:

Junior and Senior Infants: - they will enter and exit the school grounds through the main gate or the stile and enter and exit their classroom through the fire escape door. All pupils must remain seated at their desk on arrival to their classroom

1st and 2nd class:- they will enter and exit the school grounds through the stile or main gate and enter and exit their classroom through the fire escape door. All pupils must remain seated at their desk on arrival to their classroom.

3rd and 4th class:- They will enter and exit the school grounds through the stile or main gate and enter and exit their classroom through the main front door. All pupils must remain seated at their desk on arrival to their classroom.

5th and 6th class:- They will enter and exit the school grounds through the stile or main gate and enter their classroom through the fire escape door. All pupils must remain seated at their desk on arrival to their classroom.

There will also be designated play areas for break and lunch times which must be strictly adhered to. These will be communicated to the children upon their return to school.

While all children will be welcome back to school, we would remind parents/guardians 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 the school.

Parents/Guardians of children who have travelled overseas must observe the guidelines as set down by the Government and which can be accessed through the following link;

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/77952-government-advice-on-international-travel/%20>

If you have any questions or concerns at all please don't hesitate to contact me and email is the best way to do this.

Kind regards,
PJ Nolan.

Please find below some links which the Department Of Education and Skills have requested us to circulate which may provide some further useful information about the Return To School Protocols.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/#returning-to-school>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/#returning-to-school>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/0cf46-resources-and-materials-for-parentsguardians-and-for-students-on-returning-to-school-multi-lingual/>