



St. Catherine's Nursery & Primary School

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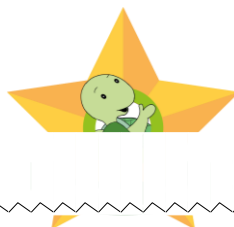
Dear Parent/ Carer,

This is just a little final letter with reminders (to add clarity) ahead of our little pupils returning to school.

First and foremost we are so excited to be seeing our little children again, as we have missed them so much! We are keen to get some sense of normality back into all our lives.

We want to assure you that your child's safety and the safety of our staff is our main concern. We will do everything possible to ensure that school is a safe environment for everyone. To this end, we have listed a few reminders in this letter for you ahead of our return to school. If you have any concerns do not hesitate to email your child's teacher or any Senior Leader, Vice Principal or Principal.

1. Children should **NOT bring school bags**, just a snack, packed lunch in a wipeable lunch box (or a disposable bag) and water in a water bottle (if children wish to.)
2. **Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2 Parents ONLY can enter the grounds** to take our littlest children to the school door allocated where they will be met by staff. **Parents of pupils in Year 3,4,5,6 and 7 SHOULD NOT enter the school grounds.** They should drop their children off at the school gate at the designated area mentioned in our earlier letter. Signage will also be placed on the appropriate gate to help you. Staff will collect children at the designated school gate area.





3. Parents **can only** enter the actual school building by prearranged appointment. An appointment can be arranged by telephoning the school or emailing the relevant member of staff.
4. We respectfully request that parents park a little away from school, if possible, and walk with their child to the designated drop off point at school to help avoid congestion at the school gates. Parents are encouraged to socially distance themselves at the school gates also for their own safety.
5. Staff will be wearing safety gear in school, please discuss this with your child so that they can be prepared for this. We have sent resources to you by email to help you prepare your child for “The New Normal” which includes staff wearing safety gear, social distancing, eating in classrooms, bubble groups etc. Children should not wear safety gear as directed by DE (Department of Education).
6. **Keep us updated!** If you change your home address, your mobile number or your email address please email details to Mrs Clare Kelly (Clerical Officer) ckelly452@c2kni.net
7. There will be NO BREAKFAST CLUB, FAMILY CLUB or AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS for the foreseeable future as we cannot mix children from different bubble groups. If we can facilitate any clubs in the future we will be in touch with you. In the meantime, we have prioritised settling everyone in to the “New Normal” first after having been out of school for a considerable length of time.
8. **Staggered Drop Off Times / Collection times should be strictly adhered to**, where possible, as it will be so important for the smooth running of the school.
9. Children will have their temperature checked on arrival to school and if a child’s temperature is 38 degrees centigrade or more (NHS Current Guidelines), parents will be called and asked to take their child home and they should return to school only when the temperature returns to normal. If a child has symptoms of COVID 19 parents will be contacted and asked to take their child to the GP. If tested positive for COVID 19 the children/ staff in the bubble will all be asked to self isolate for 14 days and a deep clean of the classroom will be carried out. If a child or a member of staff tests positive for COVID 19, their whole family must self isolate and school must be informed.
10. Staff will deliver the curriculum in school for all children. There will be some adjustments going forward and we will keep you informed of these as we go along. Email contact will be crucial going forward.
There will be **no homework for the first few weeks** but we will also keep you updated on this.
11. Classrooms will look a little different than they were before. We have created safe spaces for all our children to return safely and to promote social distancing. We also have quite a bit of signage around the school inside and out to promote safety....social distancing, promote handwashing and hand sanitising. This is for everyone’s safety. Each classroom and various other areas of the school have been fitted with sanitisers. Every effort is being made to promote hygiene and safety.
12. Meals will be served to children in the classroom bubbles so that children will not have to congregate in the canteens.
13. We expect our little children and indeed our parents to be experiencing a little anxiety about returning to school, we feel this too! However we will do everything in our power to alleviate the worries of our little children and parents. It may take a little





time, but if we work together, we will get there. Children are very resilient and will probably adapt to the “New Normal” faster than the rest of us!

This guidance is informed by Department of Education, PHA (Public Health Agency) and the HSE (Health and Safety Executive). If anything changes, you can rest assured that we will let you know and keep you updated at the earliest possible opportunity.

It only remains now for us to get started! Even though we are coming back to this “New Normal” , we feel that it is better to have our little children at school for five days a week, learning with each other than at home, so we should be patient with each other and support each other going forward. Your support, helping us by adhering to this guidance going forward will be crucial.

We thank you for having been so patient, understanding and supportive to date and look forward to getting back!!

God bless you all..... We’ve got this!!!

Mrs Bridget Wilders
Principal

