

St. Michael's & St. Patrick's N.S. (Roll No. 19720P)

Cootehall

Boyle

F52TV26

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071-9667264

18<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents,

The Department of Public Health HSE West has been notified of a confirmed case of Covid-19 in our school.

The school has engaged with the HSE and a public health risk assessment has been undertaken. Parents of any children deemed to be close contacts of the confirmed case have been contacted and advised accordingly.

Siblings of close contacts do not need to be excluded from school or tested at present. Children who have not been identified as a close contact can continue to attend school. School will be open as usual for these students tomorrow.

We have been asked by The Department of Public Health HSE West to remind everyone to be vigilant regarding public health advice.

The timetable of staggered drop off and collection times is as follows:

	<b>Families A-L</b>	<b>Families M- Z</b>	<b>School Bus</b>
<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>9.15 a.m.</b>	<b>9.20 a.m.</b>	<b>9.25 a.m.</b>
<b>Dismissal Time</b>	<b>3.10 p.m.</b>	<b>3.15 p.m.</b>	<b>3.10 p.m.</b>

We ask that all students arrive and are collected at agreed times please. **We ask that students do not leave their vehicle and enter the school grounds until a staff member opens and is present at the main school gate.**

When pupils arrive at the school at their designated time, they must proceed unaccompanied through the open main gate directly to their classroom and are not permitted to congregate/play in the school yard on arrival or on collection from school.

Supervision will start at 9:15 a.m., and finish at 3:20p.m. The Junior Infant and Senior Infant students finish at 2.10 p.m. The Board of Management cannot accept responsibility for any pupils on the school premises outside of these hours.

There are no services being operated by Ardcarne Community Childcare services at the present time.

**We ask that people refrain from parking in the area in front of the school gate as this area is reserved for the school bus to safely drop off and collect their passengers.**

We ask that all parents adhere to Public Health Guidelines and please do not congregate at or near the school.

In order to minimise the risk of Introduction of COVID-19 into Schools:

**Staff and Pupils are not to return to school or attend school in the event of the following:**

- if they display any signs or symptoms of COVID 19
- If they are identified by the HSE as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19
- If they live with someone who has symptoms of the virus
- If they have travelled outside of Ireland: in such instances they are advised to consult and follow the latest Government Advice in relation to foreign travel.
- Staff and pupils must cooperate with any public health officials and the school for contract tracing purposes and follow any public health advice in the event of a case or outbreak in the school.

Staff members will wear recommended face coverings. All adult visitors to school grounds MUST WEAR suitable face coverings. There is no requirement for pupils to wear face coverings.

Communication between home and school will continue to be by e mail, text, Aladdin and through our school website at the moment. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please email the teacher, or leave a message on the school phone (071-9667264). Please note that our school secretary is unavailable at the moment so phone messages may not be checked every day. We will endeavour to return your email or call as soon as possible. Teachers can be contacted directly by email at the following email addresses:

Class	Teacher	Email address
Junior Infants	Ms. Brennan	<a href="mailto:deirdrebrennanschool@gmail.com">deirdrebrennanschool@gmail.com</a> cootehallns@gmail.com
Senior Infants & 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Ms. Conroy/Ms. Brennan	lconroydbrennan@gmail.com
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Mr. Conboy	lccootehall@gmail.com
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Ms. Tansey	tanya.tansey3@gmail.com
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Mr. Duffy	cootehallns@gmail.com
S.E.T.	Ms. Martin	camartin053@gmail.com
S.E.T.	Ms. Gilhooly	agilhoolyschool@gmail.com

**All parents/guardians must complete an Absence Form in respect of all children after any absence from school.** Please click [here](#) for an Absence Form.

**Ms Christine McLoughlin will be teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class for the next 3 weeks in Ms. Tansey's absence.**

**Mr. David Regan will be teaching Junior Infants this week.**

We will be in contact at a later stage about how remote learning will be facilitated during this period for children identified as close contacts of the confirmed case.

We will be in contact with you with further information as this situation evolves.

**We appreciate your continued patience and support at this unique time for our school.**

Kind regards and take care,

*Cíán Duffy*  
Principal.