



Knockmahon N.S.
Bonnahon
Co. Waterford
X42 AD91

T.051292500

E.knockmahonns@gmail.com

RCN.20136772

Roll No. 18077L



19th August 2021

Dear Parents

We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Wednesday 1st September. We hope you all had a fun filled summer and are fully recharged for our new academic year 2021/2022.

We are delighted to confirm that in line with our governments “Return to School Response Plan August 2021”, Knockmahon N.S. can open with 100% capacityall classes can return on September 1st ☐☐.

Over the last 18 months Knockmahon N.S. has proven that the safety of our pupils & staff is a top priority. This means we will continue to follow our governments guidelines to keep our pupils & staff safe. As always we will monitor the data closely and ensure that all protocols are in place.

Protocols will be in place the same as last year -

- ❖ We will continue to operate a one way system with entry only through the front main door, the back door will be the exit door for the senior room pupils and the front door to the right will be the exit door for the junior room.
- ❖ Signage will be displayed on all doors.
- ❖ There will be social distancing markings on the path to guide children coming into school in the mornings. There will be a social distancing queueing system to enter the school ensuring your child’s safety at all times. A staff member will be at the gate to ease the process until pupils become familiar with it.
- ❖ Teachers/Staff will wear a face mask where a 2 meter distance cannot be maintained.
- ❖ All pupils will be brought to the gate for collection by parents/guardians. We would ask that social distancing be observed at the school gates.
- ❖ We have in place a new cleaning schedule with enhanced cleaning in communal spaces, we have added to our already rigorous cleaning protocols, paying close attention to high use touch points such as door handles, taps and toilet flushing handles. This cleaning is also done with increased frequency. Pupils desks will be sanitised at the start of every class.
- ❖ We will have extra classroom space available to facilitate effective social distancing. Pods (small groups) will be in place.
- ❖ We will have sanitiser dispensers placed around the school for use by everyone. There will be sanitiser dispensers available at all entrances and in all classrooms. We ask that pupils bring their own tissues, with their name on the pack.



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- ❖ We will encourage everyone in school to wash hands thoroughly and regularly throughout the day. Signage will be displayed showing correct washing and sanitising techniques. Signage will also be displayed for correct coughing/sneezing etiquette.
- ❖ We will also be reminding pupils about catching coughs and sneezes safely in a tissue or their elbow, use of hand sanitiser and social distancing which we're all very familiar with now.
- ❖ We will have a dedicated isolation room where pupils who are showing any symptoms of the virus can wait with a staff member for collection. The HSE will inform any staff/person who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process.
- ❖ We encourage any pupils who can walk or cycle to school to do so in order to reduce congestion at the school gates.
- ❖ We will ask parents/guardians to keep any pupils showing any symptoms at home. We also ask that parents keep any pupils at home if they have been identified by the HSE as a contact of a person with Covid 19.
- ❖ We ask that parents entering the school should be kept to essential visits only and to make prior arrangements by contacting the school by telephone 051 292500, text 087 4413222 or email knockmahonns@gmail.com We ask that all parents/visitors wear a mask, sign and complete the contact tracing log.
- ❖ Teachers will continue to make children aware of the proper hygiene procedures regarding hand washing and etiquette related to sneezing & coughing. We would be grateful if you would continue to emphasise safe behaviour in this regard to your child at home as part of the preparation for returning to school.
- ❖ We will respond to any advice from the HSE/Department of Education on keeping our pupils safe.
- ❖ We will keep all parents up to date through DOJO.
- ❖ If you have travelled abroad recently please make sure you have followed all the current guidelines in place for you and your children. See [Travel Guidelines](#)
- ❖ We will give each child a "Return to Educational Facility" form to bring home - in the event of any absence & when your child is coming back to school please complete this form & return to the school.

School Uniform – The children will continue to wear their uniforms.

Lunch Boxes/Water bottles – Please ensure that lunch boxes & water bottles are thoroughly cleaned daily to lessen the risk of cross contamination between school and home.



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Stationery – All children will have two pencil cases with pencils, colours, a topper and an eraser - one to remain in school and one to remain at home. All school items should be labelled with your child's name.

All school payments including the book rental fee (€40.00 per pupil, same as last year) can be paid into the school bank account using parents/ guardians online banking. Details as follows:

Account Name: Knockmahon N.S.
IBAN: IE53AIBK93424014308076
BIC: AIBKIE2D

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU PUT YOUR CHILDS NAME AND WHAT YOU ARE PAYING IN THE REFERENCE/DETAILS SECTION. E.G. MBYRNE BOOK RENTAL

Payments can also be made to the school.

Our aim is 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 our school environment. This will be achieved by all of us working together. Thank you all for your continued cooperation.

Please contact the school (telephone/text/email) if you have any questions about the return to school protocols.

Other news:



“National Bike Week” is back ☐ – our Bike Week event “Rothaíocht agus Spraoi í Bun Machan” is pencilled in for Friday, September 17th – more details to follow.

We have been liaising with Waterford County Council about a footpath to link our school with the village and we were delighted to receive a phone call earlier this month informing us that work was starting on the first section.....safer walking for our pupils ☐☐.

Please visit [Information for parents, students and families](#) for detailed information on returning to school/Covid 19.

Enjoy the rest of the holidays and we'll see you all on the 1st September.

Best regards
Luke Brennan
Principal

Catriona Byrne
Deputy Principal