

Donabate-Portrane



Educate Together

Donabate Portrane Educate Together N.S., Ballisk Common, Beaverstown Road, Donabate, Co. Dublin K36 HX03

Susan Clarke (*Principal*)/ **Karen Coghlan** (*Deputy Principal*)

DONABATE/PORTRANE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL

COVID-19 SCHOOL RESPONSE PLAN & CONTROL MEASURES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Page 3
Policy Statement	Page 4
1. Planning and Preparing for return to school	Page 5
2. Signage	Page 5
3. Classrooms	Page 5
4. The School Office	Page 6
5. Running the school	Page 6
6. Induction Training	Page 7
7. Managing the risk of spreading COVID 19	Page 7
8. Staff/Students considered to be very high risk or high risk	Page 11
9. Procedures for Returning to Work (PRT) – Staff	Page 11
10 Use of PPE	Page 11
11 Cleaning	Page 11
12 Access to School Building	Page 12
13 Dealing with a suspected case of COVID 19	Page 12
14 Parental responsibilities	Page 13
15 Student responsibilities	Page 13
16 Morning Times	Page 14
17. Home Times	Page 15
CONCLUSION	Page 15

INTRODUCTION

The following document outlines the control measures Donabate/Portrane Educate Together National School has put in place to mitigate the risk of infection and transmission of COVID-19. It is important that everyone in our community (staff, students and parents) adopt these control measures to help mitigate the risk of infection from COVID-19. This document was first created by Maeve Corish, (Principal), Susan Clarke (Deputy Principal), Karen Coghlan (Assistant Principal 1) and Eimear Cole (Assistant Principal 2 with responsibility for Health and Safety) in August 2020

It has most recently been amended by the Leadership team of DPETNS (Susan Clarke, Principal, Karen Coghlan, Deputy Principal and Cormac O' Brien, Assistant Principal 1) on 26th August 2021. It has most recently been updated in January 2022.

This document was ratified by the Board of Management on 18th August 2020. The control measures herein form part of a living document and it is updated at regular intervals. **Any updates to this document will be communicated to staff and parents via email and the school website.**

Responsibility

The Board of Management have a legal obligation under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 to assess the risks associated with COVID -19 , implement control measures to eliminate/reduce the associated risks and to design, provide and maintain a safe working environment, plan safe systems of work and provide suitable training and PPE measures.

Staff should note that they have a legal obligation under Section 13 of the Safety, Health and Welfare Act 2005 to comply with health and safety requirements and to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves, their colleagues and other parties within the workplace.

The Board of Management, staff, students, parents and guardians have a collective responsibility to ensure the safety of themselves and others in the implementation of these measures. The assistance and co-operation of all is critical to the success of this plan.

We are committed to continuing to nurture each of our students and to upholding the ethos of our Educate Together school. The values of inclusivity, respect for diversity, kindness and friendliness will be encouraged and supported every day. This Response Plan articulates the many different measures we are putting in place to help prevent the spread of COVID 19. We want to emphasise that despite the background of the virus the ethos of our school (croi na scoile) will continue to prevail and we will do everything we can to create a safe, bright and friendly school with a warm welcome for all.

COVID-19 Policy Statement

Donabate/Portrane Educate Together National School is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our staff and a safe learning environment for all our pupils. To ensure that, we have developed the following COVID-19 Response Plan. The BOM and all school staff are responsible for the implementation of this plan and a combined effort will help contain the spread of the virus. We will:

- continue to monitor our COVID-19 response and amend this plan in consultation with our staff
- provide up to date information to our staff and pupils on the Public Health advice issued by the HSE and Gov.ie
- display information on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and correct handwashing techniques
- agree with staff, two worker representatives who are easily identifiable to carry out the role outlined in this plan
- inform all staff and pupils of essential hygiene and respiratory etiquette and physical distancing requirements
- adapt the school to facilitate physical distancing as appropriate in line with the guidance and direction of the Department of Education

- keep a contact log to help with contact tracing
- ensure staff engage with the induction / familiarisation briefing provided by the Department of Education
- implement the agreed procedures to be followed in the event of someone showing symptoms of COVID-19 while at school
- provide instructions for staff and pupils to follow if they develop signs and symptoms of COVID-19 during school time
- implement cleaning in line with Department of Education advice

All school staff will be consulted on an ongoing basis and feedback is encouraged on any concerns, issues or suggestions. This can also be done anonymously through the Lead Worker Representative(s), who will be supported in line with the agreement between the Department and education partners.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

1. Planning and Preparing for Return to School

Before re-opening the school in September 2020 we ensured the following:

- Water systems have been flushed regularly to prevent Legionella disease
- School has been decluttered
- All classroom doors have been fitted with a chain to secure in an open position
- Excess furniture removed to maximize use of space
- New seating layouts to have social distancing between pods
- Foot operated, covered waste bins purchased and placed in each room
- School thoroughly cleaned and new enhanced cleaning regime put in place
- Foot operated hand sanitising stations purchased and installed at each entrance to the school.
- Bicycle racks re distributed around the school grounds to minimize contact between groups of children
- Relevant signage displayed inside and outside the school
- Two Lead Worker Representatives, Aimee Lawlor and Esther Moore have been appointed as required by the guidelines. Maureen Mc Dermott will deputise in their absence.

2. Signage

- Signs promoting good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene displayed throughout the school
- Entrances clearly marked
- No visitor access signs on doorways
- Appropriate signage located in all classrooms and offices
- Main door sign indicating protocols for visitors/parents

3. Classrooms

- Coat hangers have been removed from senior classes (3rd -6th), children will store coats at their desk
- Excess furniture has been removed
- Hard surfaces must be kept clear for cleaning
- Hand sanitising stations are installed in every classroom
- Teachers and SNAS will clean their own desks and students' desks before leaving every day, staff will be provided with cloths and cleaning materials
- Children will work at their own desk and sit in the same chair every day.
- Changes to desks/tables will be done over weekends and desks will be sanitised.

4. The School Office

- The Office Staff will keep an accurate contact tracing log for all visitors to the school. This will also be updated online with the principal having access.
- Parents are only to drop into the school office if they have an appointment.
- If speaking to the staff through the hatch parents are requested to keep a two metre distance and to wear a mask when inside the building.

5. Running the school

- The school will be divided into four distinct entities or bands (Band 1 – Junior and Senior Infants, Band 2 – First and Second, Band 3 – Third and Fourth and Band 4 – Fifth and Sixth. The children in Sinead and Ann’s classes will integrate with their relevant classes. In as far as is practicable the children will enter and leave the building through a door dedicated to their band or class group. They will stay on their designated corridor only.
- Staff will sign in every morning at the main office, teachers will take children’s attendance using Aladdin
- Bike racks will be assigned to bands or class groups and every effort will be made to keep class groups separate from the rest of the school, both during the day and as they enter and exit the school.
- There will be two Lunch break times each day. Band 1 and 2 are on break from 10-10.10 and 11.45-12.10 and band 3 and 4 10.15-10.25 and 12.15-12.40
- The maximum number of staff in the school staff room will be 10
- Alternate staff rooms will be set up in both sides of the library
- Non-contact, forehead thermometers will be located on each corridor and there will be a stocked First Aid station on each corridor. Ear thermometers will also be available in the office and staff room. Susan/Karen will make decisions on sending children home.
- Waste from PPE or First Aid will be placed in the First Aid Bins located on each corridor.
- Children will not be sent on messages except in an emergency.
- Movement around the building will be kept to a minimum.
Children go out for both small and big break.
- For PE lessons classes will enter the school hall via the shelter out the back and will exit through the main entrance to the hall. The PE hall will be sanitised at the end of each day. Lessons will be conducted in line with the HPSC guidance on Return to Sports, which can be found on the www.gov.ie/en/publication/0753-return-to-sports-protocols/
- All external doors and windows will be open during PE lessons.
- Choir/Music Performance: Singing and playing instruments may pose a higher risk and special consideration should be given to ensure that the room is well ventilated and the distance between performers is maintained.
- Children will use the same entrance/exit when entering or leaving the school or throughout the school day where practicable.
- We encourage everyone to email requests/messages to the school office rather than calling in
- Supervision of children during lunch breaks will be organised by agreement by each class level team
- The photocopier must be used by adults only. Adults must sanitise hands before and after use.
- Staff meetings will generally take place using Zoom.

Ventilation

- The Department has published guidance setting out the practical steps for good ventilation in accordance with public health advice 'Practical Steps for the Deployment of Good Ventilation Practices in Schools' The guidance sets out an overall approach for schools that windows should be open as fully as possible when classrooms are not in use (e.g., during break-times or lunch-times (assuming not in use) and at the end of each school day) and partially open when classrooms are in use. The guidance provides that good ventilation can be achieved in classrooms without causing discomfort, particularly during cold weather. The Department has also published guidance regarding on how these practical steps measures can be supplemented and enhanced by the use of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) monitors. We have supplied a CO₂ monitor in each mainstream classroom and in our two AS classrooms. There is also one placed in the main staff room. We have Air Purifier systems in all classrooms from Junior Infants to Second Class. We also have one in the main staffroom. On seeking the advice of an engineer, the school was rated as well ventilated. We have provided staff with training on how to use the CO₂ monitors and Air Purifiers effectively.
- We are currently monitoring the effectiveness of the Air Purifiers, with a view to advising our findings to the Board of Management. This information may result in us purchasing additional air purifiers from Third to sixth Class after the February Mid Term Break.

6. Induction Training

All staff have completed the Covid -19 training organised by the Department of Education and Skills in advance of returning to school.

The school have provided induction training for all staff to familiarize them with all new protocols and procedures in line with government/HSE guidelines. This includes:

- Latest up-to-date advice and guidance on public health
- Covid 19 symptoms
- What to do if a staff member or pupil develops symptoms of Covid-19 while at school

Staff are kept fully informed of the control measures in place in the school and their duties and responsibilities in preventing the spread of COVID 19 and with any changes to the control measures or guidance available from the public health authorities. If a staff member is unsure about any aspect of the Covid 19 response plan, the associated control measures, or his/her duties, he/she should seek immediate guidance from the Principal. Updated advice from the HSE is available on its website

– <http://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/>

Two Lead Worker representatives, Aimee Lawlor and Esther Moore, have been appointed to assist in the implementation of this Response Plan. Maureen McDermott will deputise if needed.

7. Managing the risk of spread of Covid 19

- Advise staff and parents to familiarise themselves with the most up to date guidelines if they have symptoms/are a close contact or need to restrict their movements. All advice is available on the HSE website and changes regularly.
- Staff and students who have travelled abroad are advised to follow the latest government advice in relation to foreign travel.

- Advise staff and pupils who develop symptoms at school to bring this to the attention of the Principal promptly;
- Ensure that staff and pupils know the protocol for managing a suspected case of COVID-19 in school
- Everyone entering the school building needs to perform hand hygiene with a hand sanitiser; parents/guardians are advised to contact the school if their child is allergic to hand sanitiser so that suitable alternate arrangements can be made. Hand washing in the classroom setting is also promoted for all children and adults.

- Visitors to the school during the day should be by prior arrangement and should be received at a specific contact point;
- Physical distancing should be maintained between staff and visitors where possible.
- When someone (parents/guardians/childminders/creches) is collecting the children on the school grounds or in the environs of the school they are asked to maintain two metre social distance from other adults at all times and wear a face mask.

Know the Symptoms of COVID-19

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is important to know and recognise the symptoms of coronavirus (which includes the Delta/Omicron variant).

Common symptoms of coronavirus include:

- Fever (high temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above), including having chills
- Dry cough
- Fatigue

Other uncommon symptoms of coronavirus include:

- Loss or change of taste or smell
- Nasal congestion
- Conjunctivitis
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Different types of rashes
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Chills or dizziness

Under no circumstances should anyone with any of the above symptoms attend school. If someone in your household has these symptoms, please check the HSE website to see if you can attend work/school. Circumstances differ depending on vaccination/booster status and isolation circumstances

We would also request that anyone with any other infectious illnesses stay at home until they are 48 hours symptom free.

The Board of Management reserve the right to refuse entry (or to immediately send home) any child presenting with the symptoms of COVID-19.

Respiratory Hygiene

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your bent elbow when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately and safely into a nearby bin.

By following good respiratory hygiene, you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and Covid-19.

Hand Hygiene

Staff and pupils should understand why hand hygiene is important as well as when and how to wash their hands. Schools should promote good hygiene and display posters throughout the schools on how to wash your hands. Follow the HSE guidelines on handwashing:

<https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/how-to-wash-your-hands.html>

Hand hygiene can be achieved by hand washing or use of a hand sanitiser (when hands look clean).

Everyone is expected to wash their hands on arrival to school, after activities that are likely to soil hands, for example playing outside or certain sporting activities as hand sanitiser does not work on dirty hands and after using the bathroom.

Hand sanitiser dispensers can be available at exit and entry points of schools and classrooms and care should be taken to clean up any hand sanitiser spills to prevent risks of falls.

Wash hand basins, running water, liquid soap and paper towels are available throughout the school.

Hand sanitisers, soaps and paper towels will be filled daily

Posters displaying hand washing techniques and promoting hand washing are displayed throughout the school.

Hand sanitiser is suitable for use for hand hygiene when hands are not visibly soiled (look clean).

Evidence of effectiveness is best for alcohol-based hand rubs but non-alcohol-based hand rubs can be used too.

Young children should not have independent use of containers of alcohol gel.

Alcohol based sanitiser must not be stored or used near heat or naked flame.

Frequency of Hand Hygiene

Pupils and staff should perform hand hygiene:

- On arrival at school;
- Before eating or drinking;
- After using the toilet;
- After playing outdoors;
- When their hands are physically dirty;
- When they cough or sneeze.

Physical Distancing

Physical distancing will be promoted throughout the school allowing for some flexibility when needed. It must be applied in a practical way to recognise that the learning environment cannot be dominated by a potentially counterproductive focus on this issue. Physical distancing will look different across the various ages and stages of learning. Care should be taken to avoid generating tension or potential conflict and some flexibility in the implementation of measures may be required at times.

Staff will wear face masks when it is not possible to maintain physical distance from pupils.

Adults in the school are requested to maintain social distancing from other adults at all times.

However, where possible staff should maintain a minimum of one metre distance and where possible two metres from students. They should also take measures to avoid close contact at face to face level such as remaining standing rather than sitting beside/crouching down.

Physical distancing falls into two categories:

- Increasing separation
- Decreasing interaction

Increasing separation

Our classrooms have been reconfigured to maximise physical distancing
The management of the children coming and going to and from school will promote social distancing

Decreasing interaction

A common-sense approach will be applied to decreasing interaction recognising the limits to which this can be achieved between pupils.

It is recognised that younger children are unlikely to maintain physical distancing indoors.

Parents must observe physical distancing on the school yard and we request that they wear a mask when collecting the children on the school grounds.

8. Staff/Students who are considered to be at very high risk or high risk

The HSE have categorised people into those who are at a **very high risk** if they contract COVID 19. These are medically defined categories and certification to that effect must be submitted to the school

Staff/Students who are medically deemed to be at very high risk should seek the advice of Medmark and not return to school if advised. Staff members will be assigned duties that they can do from home. Students deemed to be at **very high risk** will be assigned work on a weekly basis by their class teacher and will be supported from a distance by a support teacher. We will do our very best to support any children in this category to the best of our ability within the resources/time available to us.

Under the Department of Education guidelines staff and students who are deemed to be at **high risk** are expected to return to work/school as normal. On receipt of a medical report that a child or staff member is considered a very high risk a member of our Senior Management Team will discuss with the staff member or parent how best to support/protect the person in school.

Parents deciding to keep their children at home (unless they are medically categorised as **very high risk**) must register with TUSLA to home /school their children. **The school does not have any responsibility or role in the education of children who are home schooled. We cannot oversee remote learning for students while the school remains open unless these children are deemed to be medically in the very high-risk category.**

9. Procedure for Returning to Work (RTW) – Staff

All staff must complete the RTW form and send it to the principal at least three days before returning to work. Throughout the year, all staff members will be required to confirm that the details in the RTW form previously submitted remain unchanged. This will be required after prolonged school closures or holiday periods. This should be sent to the office by email.

The purpose of the RTW form is to get confirmation from staff that, to the best of his/her knowledge, he/she has no symptoms of Covid -19 and is not cocooning, self-isolating or awaiting the results of a Covid-19 test.

10. Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All staff will be provided with PPE.

As per the Department of Education guidelines, staff are required to wear face coverings where it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of two metres from other staff, parents, essential visitors and students.

All staff wearing face coverings may choose to wear cloth coverings but be mindful to wash after every day of use and/or being used again or if visibly soiled. Face coverings should not be worn if they are wet.

Disposable masks will be provided for those staff member who wish to use them.

Medical grade masks (EU Standard EN 14683) and Surgical masks (K95) will be made available and stored in the First Aid room. As per the DES guidelines, students from 3rd to 6th Class are required to wear masks if they can. They may bring their own mask to school and we will also have boxes of masks available in each classroom too. Adult visitors to the school must wear a mask at all times. Staff will be provided with two antigen test per week free of charge. If there are cases identified in the classroom they work in, they may avail of a daily antigen test, to provide reassurance.

11. Cleaning

The school building has been decluttered to facilitate cleaning. An enhanced cleaning regime has been introduced; this includes three hours cleaning/sanitising throughout the school day. Everyone will be required to play their part in facilitating cleaning by being tidy and co-operating with requests from the cleaning staff.

Teachers and ANAS will clean children's desks at the end of the day. Windowsills, counter tops and desks must be cleared every evening to allow for cleaning.

Five air scrubbing machines that use ozone technology have been purchased to sanitise rooms and to further protect our students and staff.

Key touch points on door handles and push pads will be protected by a layer of self sanitising copper to further mitigate against the spread of Covid 19.

12. Access to school building

Other than staff and students access to the school building will be kept to an absolute minimum. Parents collecting children for an appointment should sign the child out at the school office and wait for them outside the relevant entrance door. Parents collecting children in the afternoon should maintain social distancing at all times. Parent/teacher meetings will take place using Zoom. Office staff will collect any lunches/bags/books from parents/guardians at the pedestrian gate at the front of the school.

13. Dealing with a suspected case of COVID 19

- Staff or pupils should not attend school if displaying any [symptoms of COVID-19](#).
- If a staff member/pupil displays symptoms of COVID-19 while at school the following procedures will be implemented:
- Susan, Karen or Cormac will be asked to review the case.
- If the person with the suspected case is a pupil, the parents/guardians should be contacted immediately

- Corballis, the room next door to Susan's office, has been identified as a designated isolation area should anyone present with a suspected case of COVID-19. In the event of more than one person displaying signs of COVID-19, Piper's Cave (beside entrance 2 at staff carpark) will be used as an isolation room.
- Isolate the person and accompany the individual to the designated isolation area via the isolation route, keeping at least two metres away from the symptomatic person and also making sure that others maintain a distance of at least two metres from the symptomatic person at all times
- If it is not possible to maintain a distance of two metres a staff member caring for a pupil should wear a face covering or mask. Gloves should not be used as the virus does not pass-through skin
- The person presenting with symptoms will be given a mask to wear. He or she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises
- Assess whether the individual who is displaying symptoms can immediately be directed to go home/be brought home by parents who will call their doctor and continue self-isolation at home
- The person presenting with symptoms will be facilitated to remain in isolation if they cannot immediately go home and facilitate them calling their doctor. The individual should avoid touching people, surfaces and objects. Advice will be given to the person presenting with symptoms to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and put the tissue in the waste bag provided
- If the person is well enough to go home, arrangements will be made for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible and they will be advised to inform their general practitioner 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, contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick person is a COVID-19 suspect
- Carry out an assessment of the incident which will form part of determining follow-up actions and recovery
- Arrangements will be made to clean the isolation room and/or classroom
- Contact the HSE regarding the next steps to be taken.
- Parents are free to disclose if their child has tested positive to Covid 19. This can be done by emailing Susan at susan.clarke@dpetns.ie Susan will discuss the matter with you and inform relevant pods. We would encourage you to allow us to share this information confidentially with the class group. This allows parents to make more informed decisions for their own households. Susan will monitor this email address outside of school hours and inform classes as soon as possible via Aladdin. School work will be provided via Seesaw for anyone who contracts Covid or is restricting their movements. There is no pressure to complete this work.
- School staff are encouraged to download the HSE COVID-19 tracker app to assist Public Health for contact tracing purposes both in and out of the school setting.

14. School Communication

The principal will communicate regularly with parents/guardians to keep them fully informed. Changes to this Response Plan will be updated on the school website. In the interests of transparency, the school is committed to communicating to parents/guardians if a member of the school community has tested positive for COVID 19 and this has been confirmed by themselves or the HSE and where it will impact on the school community. The school will not indicate whether the confirmed case is a child or a staff member as this is not permitted under GDP or employment legislation. Parents/guardians will be informed if the confirmed case has occurred within their child's class (the case may be a child or a staff member working in that pod).

The school will not be communicating on suspected cases of COVID 19.

15. Parental Responsibilities

We are heavily relying on the support of our parent body for this response plan to be successful. Parents must carefully read and familiarise themselves with this COVID 19 Response Plan. Parents are asked to complete the Student Health Declaration form on Aladdin when children have been absent, prior to their return to school. Parents must co-operate fully with the plan for mornings and home times. Contact details for parents and alternate emergency contact details must be kept up to date. As per HSE guidelines children must not attend school if they have symptoms of Covid 19. Sick children should not attend school either and must be 48 hours symptom free before they return. All the most up to date advice regarding restricted movement can be found on the HSE website. Parents must have arrangements in place for childminding in the event of a child falling ill during the school day or in the event of a sudden closure of a class or the school. Please ensure that your child has a fully stocked pencil case as students will not be sharing items with each other. This pencil case must stay in school. Parents must maintain two metres distance from staff and/or other parents on the school grounds. We request that parents wear face masks when on the school grounds.

16. Student Responsibilities

Students are requested to wash their hands regularly throughout the day and always before eating, after using the bathroom and if their hands are visibly dirty. Students are required to follow the staff instructions relating to social distancing. Students must use hand sanitisers before entering the school building and their classroom or when requested to do so by staff. (unless they have allergies) Students must sit in the chair/at the desk allocated to them only and not use other children's designated seats. Students are expected to

17. Items from home

We request that every effort is made to minimize items travelling from home to school where possible especially items that are shared.

18. Morning Times

- School start time is staggered. We will accept students from 8.45 until 9am,
- Class teachers need to supervise students from 8.45am in their own classroom
- Support teachers will all be assigned roles (at gates/doors/bike racks /stairs etc.)
- SNAs should meet their students at the gates and accompany them to their classrooms
- Reception time will be from 8.45 to 9am, school will start at 9am
- Parents/guardians are not permitted to enter the school building without a prior arranged appointment.
- Students can enter the school grounds through any of the three different gates, two on Beaverstown Road and one at the Secondary School.
- Each class has a specially designated door to enter school and a specially designated bicycle rack.
- Entrance 1 (school office) – Junior Infants and Senior Infants
- Entrance 2 (at staff car park beside Sensory Garden) – Children from Rooms 1 and 2 and First Class
- Entrance 3 (at side of school behind Sensory Garden) – Children from 3rd and 4th
- Entrance 4 (at side of school near boiler house – close to back of the school) 2nd class
- Entrance 5 (at back of school near hall/basketball courts) 5th/6th class Entrance 6 (to school hall from canopy
- Exit 7 (school hall at front of school
- Every effort will be made to get children to classrooms without close contacts with students from other classes

If your child struggles with coming into the school grounds we request that you wait until 9am to arrive at the school. We will be in a better position to help children who need additional support after the other children have gone to class.

19. Home times

Infants

- Senior Infant parents will wait at the drop off zone

- Senior infant classes will be walked out to meet them and dismissed from the front of the line as usual
- Junior Infant parents will wait at designated area in front of the school, one class will walk past the First-class rooms, one class will walk along the wall at office.
- As all four classes are leaving through the same door, Senior Infant classes should go first to avoid close contacts with the Juniors

1st to 6th

- Children going home independently will be released from class at 2.20 sharp.
- Stair ways, school grounds and gates will be supervised so class teachers can release the children from their classrooms. Children must leave through the door they entered in the morning.
- The Pencils at the front of the school is the sibling meeting point (younger children may need to be supervised getting to the meeting point.) for children exiting the school at the Beaverstown Road. Children leaving via the Secondary School gate will meet beside that gate. Sibling meeting points will be supervised
- When the children have left the grounds, the gates will open for cars and the remaining children can be walked out to collection points
- The basketball courts will be used for all remaining classes.
- Creche collection point – pencils in front of school
- Drop off zone will be supervised

Role of staff on school grounds

- To encourage safe, orderly and efficient dismissal of children
- To discourage socialisation on the school grounds
- To help keep ‘bubbles’ separate where possible

CONCLUSION

Please note that this document is a ‘live’ document and will be added to /amended over time. New information or guidelines may be issued or plans may prove unworkable or better solutions found. Parents and staff will be given updates if changes occur. It is not possible to remove all risks of spreading COVID-19 but we hope that the many different measures and protocols that we are putting in place will help to reduce the risk and that our school will be as safe as we can make it. We need everyone to play their part in helping to keep DPETNS COVID free.

