

## Covid-19 Response Plan – Scoil Dairbhre

### ❖ Key facts for Parents:

COVID – 19 is a new illness that can affect the lungs and airways and is caused by a new virus called the Coronavirus.

Coronavirus is spread in sneeze or cough droplets. To infect you, it has to get from an infected person's nose or mouth into your eyes, nose or mouth. This can be direct or indirect (on hands, objects, surfaces). If you come into close contact with someone who is shedding the virus and who is coughing or sneezing or if you touch - with your hands - surfaces or objects that someone who has the virus has coughed or sneezed on, and then touch your mouth, nose or eyes without having washed your hands thoroughly you may contract the virus.

As COVID-19 is a new illness, we are still learning about how easily the virus spreads from person to person and how to control it, so it is important to keep up to date and make sure you are using the most up to date guidance available. This information is available from the following links:

- HSE-HPSC: <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/>

- HSE Hub: <https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/>

- Department of Health:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/news/7e0924-latest-updates-on-covid-19-coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c36c85-covid-19-coronavirus/>

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

### ❖ Symptoms:

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

Common symptoms of coronavirus include:

- a fever (high temperature - 38°C or above.
- a new cough - this can be any kind of cough, not just dry.
- shortness of breath or breathing difficulties.
- loss or change in your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Fatigue
- Aches and Pains

Other uncommon symptoms of coronavirus include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● sore throat</li> <li>● headaches</li> <li>● runny or stuffy noses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● feeling sick or vomiting</li> <li>● diarrhoea</li> <li>● dizziness</li> </ul>
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For the complete list of symptoms, please refer to the HSE website:

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/symptoms/overview/>

Symptoms may be subject to change so regular review of the HSE Website is advised.

Symptomatic people appear to be most infectious for other people in the early days after symptoms begin. Infection can also spread from people in the day or two before they get symptoms, and it can spread from some people who get an infection but have no symptoms or such mild symptoms that they take little notice of them (asymptomatic spread). Infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 can cause illness, ranging from mild to severe. It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show. They can be similar to symptoms of cold and flu.

**IMPORTANT:** If you or your child have any symptoms of COVID-19 self-isolate (stay in your room), **do not attend school** and phone your family doctor straight away to see if you need a Covid-19 test.

Getting an early diagnosis means, you can get the help you need and take steps to avoid spreading the virus, if you have it.

**Your GP will advise you based on your own personal circumstances, however most people can stop self-isolating when both of these apply:**

- You have had no fever for 5 days.
- It has been 10 days since you first developed symptoms.

❖ **Best practice for Parents and Pupils:**

In order to prevent the spread of the virus:

- If you have been in contact with someone who is displaying any COVID-19 symptoms
- If you have coughed or sneezed
- If you were in contact with someone who has a fever or respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing)
- If you have been on public transport
- If you have been in a crowd (especially an indoor crowd)
- If you have handled animals or animal waste
- If you move from one room to another room or from inside to outside areas
- If you have physical contact with a child from another group other than their own

group

- If your hands are dirty
- When you arrive and leave buildings including your home or anyone else's home
- After using the toilet
- Before having a cigarette or vaping before and after eating
- Before and after preparing food
- Before and after eating your own food – breaks/lunches
- After assisting a child to use the toilet or using the toilet themselves
- After contact with bodily fluids (runny nose, spit, vomit, blood, faeces)
- After cleaning tasks

**You must wash your hands:** with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds (using the correct hand washing technique) and or use a hand sanitiser.

**You must - practice good respiratory hygiene:** that is, when coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – discard tissue immediately into a closed bin and clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water (as explained above).

**You must - maintain social or physical distancing:** that is, leave at least 2 metres (6 feet) stance between yourself and other people where possible, particularly those who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever.

**You must not engage in handshaking, hugging or physical contact with others.**

**You must avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth** – if you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with contaminated hands, you can transfer the virus from the surface to yourself. Keep your hands in good condition. Moisturise them often. Any basic product that is not perfumed or coloured is OK.

The staff will complete multiple lessons on correct hygiene, lining up, the importance of hand sanitising, staying within their pods/bubbles etc. with the children during the first weeks back in school.

#### ❖ **Role of Parents:**

It is important that parents have a clear understanding of the benefits and risk of childcare and that it is not possible to guarantee that infection can be prevented in any setting either in a childcare centre, school or in the home.

#### **Underlying Principles**

- The school has a responsibility to make efforts to ensure the safety, health and well being of all members of our school community – children, parents and staff. This plan has been formulated to better ensure that the school can exercise that duty of care.

- Assuming it is in keeping with public health advice and guidelines issued by the

Department of Education and Skills, it is preferable for all children to return to school for all five days of the school week and for a full school day. This plan has been formulated to achieve that aim.

- It is not possible to eliminate the risk of infection. However, with the co-operation of all members of our school community, it is possible to minimise the risk of the virus being introduced to school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- As well as co-operation, the flexibility and goodwill of all will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

#### ❖ **Staff Duties:**

Staff have a statutory obligation to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of their colleagues and other parties. In order to facilitate a safe return to work, these duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Adhere to the School Covid-19 Response Plan and the control measures outlined. Keep their own working environment clean and sanitised. The cooperation and assistance of all staff is essential to reduce the risk of spread of Covid-19 and to protect health and safety as far as possible within the school. All staff have a key role to play.
- Coordinate and work with their colleagues to ensure that physical distancing is maintained.
- Make themselves aware of the symptoms of Covid-19 and monitor their own wellbeing.
- Self-isolate at home and contact their GP promptly for further advice if they display any symptoms of Covid-19.
- Not return or attend school if they have symptoms of Covid-19 under any circumstances.
- If they develop any symptoms of Covid-19 whilst within the school facility, they should adhere to the procedure outlined.
- Complete the Return to Work form (Appendix 1) before they return to work.
- Must inform the Principal if there are any other circumstances relating to Covid-19, not included in the form, which may need to be disclosed to facilitate their safe return to the workplace.
- Must complete Covid-19 Induction Training and any other training required prior to their return to school.
- Must be aware of, and adhere to, good hygiene and respiratory etiquette practices.
- Keep informed of the updated advice of the public health authorities and comply with same.

#### ❖ **Lead Worker Representative**

The Protocol provides for the appointment of a Lead Worker Representative (LWR) in each workplace. The LWR will work in collaboration with the employer to assist in the implementation of measures to prevent the spread of COVID -19 and monitor adherence to those measures and to be involved in communicating the health advice around COVID-19 in the workplace.

### ❖ **Role of the Lead Worker Representative**

- Represent all staff in the workplace regardless of role, and be aware of specific issues that may arise in respect of different staff cohorts;
- Keep up to date with the latest COVID-19 public health advice;
- Work collaboratively with school management to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare of employees in relation to COVID-19;
- Consult with school management on the control measures required to minimise the risk of staff and students being exposed to COVID-19;
- Promote good hygiene practices, in conjunction with school management, such as washing hands regularly and maintaining good respiratory etiquette along with maintaining social distancing in accordance with public health advice;
- Assist school management with the implementation of measures to suppress COVID-19 in the workplace in line with the Return to Work Safely Protocol and current public health advice;
- Monitor, in conjunction with school management, adherence to measures put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19;
- Conduct reviews of safety measures that are in place to address and suppress COVID-19 in the workplace. Reviews (including an examination of the workplace) should be conducted on a regular basis (at least twice per week);
- Report any issues of concern immediately to school management and keep records of such issues and actions taken to rectify them;
- Consult with the school management on the school's COVID-19 Response Plan in the event of someone developing COVID-19 while in school including the location of an isolation area and a safe route to that area;
- Following any incident, assess with the school management any follow up action that is required;
- Consult with colleagues on matters relating to COVID-19 in the workplace;
- Make representations to school management on behalf of their colleagues on matters relating to COVID-19 in the workplace.

The LWR may consult with, and make representations to, school management on any issue of concern in relation to COVID-19. These include issues in relation to:

- Cleaning protocols and their implementation
- Physical Distancing
- Configuration/re-configuration of the school facilities, including classrooms, corridors, halls, open areas, entry and exit points, school grounds etc.
- Implementation of one-way systems in the school to ensure social distancing including when entering and exiting the school
- Hand Hygiene facilities including their location and whether they are stocked and maintained
- Hand sanitising
- Staff awareness around hand hygiene in the school
- Respiratory hygiene
- Personal Protective Equipment

- At Risk Groups
- Visitors/Contractors

<b>Scoil Dairbhre Lead Worker Representative</b>	Ciara McQuillan
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### ❖ Safety Procedures

- Each class has a separate exit and entrance door.
- Each class has a separate toilet and sink.
- Cleaning and sanitising equipment is available in each room and in each bathroom.
- All teachers have completed Covid-19 Induction Training supplied by DES.
- All teachers to complete a Return to Work Form (Appendix 1).
- All children must complete a Return to School Declaration form on returning to school after any absence (Appendix 2).
- The school has been deep cleaned.
- Cleaning hours have been increased.
- Rooms will be ventilated regularly (see additional note below).
- Children can wear body warmers/fleeces if cold in class due to ventilation.
- The day will include 1 X 15 minute Break and 1 X 30 minute Break.
- Within each class from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, the children will be seated 1 metre distance apart/in pods.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at all entry points and in all class and support rooms.
- Children will have a separate basket each containing writing materials, tissues and equipment needed for school work.
- Any shared materials will be sanitised before and after use.
- Teachers will collect their pupils at their entry door each morning and accompany them to the school gate each day.

### **Ventilation:**

Based on the Department of Education guidance on ventilation the following will be in place:

- Windows will be open as fully as possible when classrooms are not in use (e.g. during break-times or lunch-times (assuming not in use).
- External and internal classroom doors will also be left open when classrooms are not in use (e.g., during break-times or lunch-times (assuming not in use).
- Windows will be partially open when classrooms are in use to ensure airflow. Windows do not need to be open as wide in windy/colder weather in order to achieve the same level of airflow into the classroom. This will assist in managing comfort levels in classrooms during periods of colder weather.
- At the end of each school day windows will be fully open for a minimum of 15 minutes to ensure the room is fully ventilated.

- Cross ventilation will be used where possible to assist with airflow – keeping internal doors into classrooms open for periods of time throughout the day. This can also be achieved by opening windows on opposite side of the room, where possible.

## ❖ Face Coverings

NPHET has recommended the wearing of face masks/coverings by children in 3rd class and above in primary schools. It has been advised that this measure is being introduced on a temporary basis and is subject to review in mid-February 2022.

Following the Government decision to accept the recommendation of NPHET, the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) has issued updated interim guidance on the use of face coverings in childcare and educational settings as set out in the link below:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/1f9ba-interim-guidance-on-the-use-of-face-coverings-in-childcare-and-educational-settings/>

Face masks/coverings protect both the wearer and others around them. Cloth face masks/coverings are more effective than visors. In the limited circumstances where a cloth face mask/covering cannot be worn, clear visors may be considered. Parents are encouraged to work with schools in a spirit of partnership and co-operation to ensure the safety of the whole school community.

The following categories of children are exempt on medical grounds from wearing face masks/coverings; the categories include:

- any pupil with difficulty breathing or other relevant medical conditions
- any pupil who is unable to remove the cloth face mask/covering or visor without assistance
- any pupil who has special needs and who may feel upset or very uncomfortable wearing the cloth face mask/covering or visor, for example pupils with intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental health conditions, sensory concerns or tactile sensitivity.

It should also be noted that where a school is aware, having consulted with the parent/guardian that a child's needs are such that mask-wearing is not appropriate, no medical certification is needed.

Parents are encouraged to work with schools in a spirit of partnership and co-operation to ensure the safety of the whole school community. A solution-focused engagement between the school and the child's parents /guardians should take place with a view to resolving issues that may arise.

The Department will engage with schools to offer guidance and support to reassure parents and to help schools resolve any issues. Where significant issues have not been resolved locally, contact should be made with the Department's COVID-19 support by email [Covid19\\_alert@education.gov.ie](mailto:Covid19_alert@education.gov.ie) or telephone 057 9324461 and an Inspector will provide further support.

### Timetables

Timetables remain the same. School will open at 9.10am. Class will start at 9.20am. Junior and Senior Infants will be accompanied by their teacher to their exit door at 2pm. 1st -6th class will be brought to the school gates at 3pm. Each class grouping will have a separate pathway to follow.

### Entrances & Exits

Entrance and Exit Points	
Junior and Senior Infants	Main Door with ramp No.1
First and Second Class	External classroom Door No.2
Third and Fourth Class	Wooden Door No. 4 with ramp (door at teacher's carpark)
Fifth and Sixth Class	External Classroom door No. 3

All Exit and Entry doors will be clearly labelled. A coloured spot has been drawn at each entry door and there are markings to indicate where children should stand. Each class should line up at their designated point with social distancing observed.

We ask for co-operation as it will mean that the numbers congregating on school grounds at any one time will be minimised.

Parents must arrive on time for leaving in and collecting their child.

Only parents or carers who are well and have no symptoms of COVID-19 or who have served the required quarantine time of 14 days where advised are allowed to drop off and collect children.

Any parent who is in a high-risk category should not drop off or collect children in order to protect themselves.

(This of course is at the discretion of the individual parent/carer/grandparent)

The class teacher will invite the children to enter the building via their designated entrance point at the appropriate time. No child is to enter the school building unless their teacher allows them to do so.

No adults, other than staff members, should enter the building.



Messages for teachers can be sent to main school email address ([schdarver.ias@gmail.com](mailto:schdarver.ias@gmail.com)) or by phoning the school office on (042) 9379280.

### Arrival at school

- Children are to be dropped off as usual outside the school gate. Parents are reminded to park on the opposite side of the road, rear bumper to kerb **AT ALL DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES.**
- Parents may accompany children to the gate but are asked not to enter school grounds and to maintain social distancing guidelines **AT ALL TIMES.**
- Parents of Junior and Senior Infants may accompany their children to their line for the first few days.
- Parents/guardians must wear a face mask if accompanying children to the school gate.

### End of School Day

- Adults, who are collecting their children from school at the end of the day, should wait in their car and the class teacher/SNA will accompany children to the school exit gates.
- Exit gates are as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> – round/pedestrian gate
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – church gate with Elaine
  - 4<sup>th</sup> – round/pedestrian gate
  - 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> – church gate
- The class teacher/SNA will bring the children to their designated exit point and will release the children into the care of the adult who is there to collect them.
- Parents/guardians must wear a face mask if exiting their car to collect children.

### Collection of Children during the School Day

If an adult has to collect a child during the course of the school day it is preferable that the class teacher has prior knowledge of this. Please send in a note or leave a message with the school secretary.

The following arrangements will apply:

- Please ensure that the adult collecting the pupil is wearing a mask.
- When the adult arrives at the school please knock on your child's classroom window, then wait at their entrance/exit door.
- Please remember to adhere to social distancing.
- No adult should enter the school building, unless invited to do so.

### Forgotten items/lunches:

- If a parent needs to drop in a forgotten item please knock on the window/external classroom door and leave the item on the windowsill/ground outside the door.
- Please do not interrupt the class teacher.
- If you need to speak to the class teacher please make an appointment through the school email or phone the school office.

**Access to the school building /contact log:**

- Access to the school facility will be in line with agreed school procedures.
- Arrangement for necessary visitors such as parents/guardians and contractors will be restricted to essential purposes and limited to those who have obtained prior approval from the Principal.
- A sign in/sign out log of approved visitors entering and leaving the school facilities will be maintained.
- These logs are available in the secretary's office and at the main school doors and must be filled out by all approved visitors to the school.

**❖ Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19**

Pupils should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If a pupil displays symptoms of Covid-19 while in the building, the following are the procedures will be implemented:

- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately.
- The child will be accompanied to the designated isolation area via the isolation route by a member of staff. The staff member will remain at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic child and will also make sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic child at all times
- A mask will be provided for the child presenting with symptoms. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises.
- The school will facilitate the child presenting with symptoms to remain in isolation, if they cannot immediately go home.
- The child presenting with symptoms should be advised to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and to put the tissue in the waste bag provided
- If the child is well enough to go home, the school will arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible, and advise them to inform their GP by phone of their symptoms. Public transport of any kind should not be used
- If a staff member develops symptoms of Covid-19 they should alert the principal as soon as possible and follow the isolation procedure above. If they are unable to drive themselves home the principal will contact the staff member's emergency contact and arrange for their collection.
- If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, the school will contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick child is a suspected case of Covid-19.
- Arrangements will be made for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.
- The HSE will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed.
- In the event that a symptomatic pupil is sent home, the parent must contact the principal

**before** that pupil returns to school (Appendix 3).

- Pupils with suspected cases will be treated with dignity and in the strictest confidentiality.

### **Children who should not attend school**

If your child is in one of the following categories, they should not attend school

- Children who have been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children who have been in contact with a person who has a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school
- Children who have returned home after travelling abroad and must self-isolate for a period of 14 days
- Children who are generally unwell

### **Pupils returning home after travelling abroad:**

❖ Please refer to the following Public Health Advice

<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/75d92-covid-19-travel-advice/>

### **Supporting the Learning of Children who cannot attend school**

If a child is not able to attend school for an extended period of time for a legitimate reason, the class teacher (and/or the learning support teacher, where relevant) may suggest activities to support the child's learning at home and these will be shared with parents.

### **Impact of a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Covid-19 in a Class**

If the school is notified that a person in your child's class has a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19

- The parents of all children in the class will be notified
- Public health advice will be sought and followed

### **Please note:**

If there is a case within the school, public health will contact those who are identified as close contacts and advise the person accordingly, based on their vaccination status. The responsibility lies with parents/staff to follow the public health advice that is relevant to them based on their own specific circumstances (vaccinated/unvaccinated).

### **Personal Equipment**

- In so far as possible, it is requested that children from 3rd to 6<sup>th</sup> Class will bring their own pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners etc. A Pritt stick, Packet of tissues and Twistables will be provided for each individual child and will be kept in school. Each child will be provided with a container to store these items in. These items will be

labelled in school.

- For children in Junior and Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd classes the school will provide a container which will hold each child's pencils, crayons etc. All of these will be labelled with their name. Boxes of tissues will be provided on each table.

### **Shared Equipment**

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for structured activities and play in Infant classrooms. Cleaning of such shared equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

### **School Yard and Playtime – Yard Zones**

As we have lots of space in Scoil Dairbhre we have mapped out 4 yard zones. Each class will be designated a zone on a rotating basis. Yards will be supervised by class teachers, learning support teachers and our SNA. The zones will be marked and children will be made aware of where they are to play.

### **Learning Support**

In keeping with our Special Education policy, learning support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal.

- Where a support teacher is working alongside a class teacher in a classroom, both teachers must be mindful of maintaining social distance from one another.
- Where children receive support in one of the SET rooms, social distancing of 1 metre will be maintained between each child in the group.
- The tables and chairs in SET rooms will be wiped clean in between different groups attending.

### **PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):**

- Use of PPE will be required to be worn within the school facility by all staff at all times.
- All staff in the building will wear medically approved masks which will be provided for them.
- PPE will be available for dealing with suspected COVID-19 cases, intimate care needs and for first aid. This will be updated in line with advice from the HPSC (Health Protection Surveillance Centre).

### **Teacher Absence and Substitution**

In the event that teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. If a substitute teacher is not available, it is not appropriate for the class to be divided into groups and accommodated in other classes. In such circumstances, it may not be possible for the class to attend on that day. If that is the case, as much notice as possible will be given to parents.

**PE**

Where possible, PE should take place outdoors and use of equipment should be confined to the sets that have been distributed to class groupings. If the Community Centre is being used by class groupings, common touch points will be cleaned at appropriate intervals.

**Feedback**

This policy was drawn up by a committee comprising the board of management, the principal and deputy principal and our appointed lead worker representative. It is a working document subject to change. We will follow all updated Public Health Guidance in relation to Covid-19, some of which may change the approaches outlined in this plan.

We welcome and encourage feedback to [schdarver.ias@gmail.com](mailto:schdarver.ias@gmail.com)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix 1**

**Return to Work Form - This Return to Work Form must be completed by school staff in advance of returning to the workplace. If the answer is Yes to any of the below questions, you are advised to seek medical advice before returning to the workplace.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Principal:

	Questions	YES	NO
1.	Do you have symptoms of cough, fever, high temperature (38 degrees C or above), difficulty breathing, loss or change in your sense of smell or taste now or in the past 14 days?		
2.	Have you been diagnosed with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection in the last 14 days?		
3.	Are you awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test?		
4.	In the past 14 days, have you been in contact with a person who is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19?		
5.	Have you been advised to self-isolate at this time?		
6.	Have you been advised to restrict your movements at this time?		
7.	Have you been categorised as 'Very High Risk' or 'High Risk' by the Occupational Health Service (OHS)		

Please provide details below of any other circumstances relating to COVID-19, not included in the above, which may need to be considered to allow your safe return to work e.g. returning from travel abroad.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* If your situation changes after you complete and submit this Return to Work Form, please inform your employer.

\*\* Further information on people at very high risk (extremely vulnerable) or high risk from COVID-19 can be found at link: <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/people-at-higher-risk.html>.

\*\*\* Details of current arrangements for travel overseas can be found set out at [this gov.ie link](#) Please note: The school is collecting this sensitive personal data for the purposes of maintaining safety within the workplace in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The legal basis for collecting this data is based on vital public health interests and maintaining occupational health and this data will be held securely in line with our retention policy.

## Appendix 2

### COVID-19 Return to Educational Facility Parental Declaration Form

Child's Name:	Teacher's Name:
Parents/Guardian's Name:	
Name of School:	

This form<sup>1</sup> may be used when children are returning to the setting after any absence.

Declaration:

I have no reason to believe that my child has an infectious disease and that I have followed all medical and public health guidance with respect to the exclusion of my child from educational facilities.

Signed

Date:

### Appendix 3

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child presented with symptoms today at school as a result of which he/she was brought to the Isolation Area.

The school now requests that you inform your general practitioner by phone of

their symptoms.

You are obliged to contact the principal before your son/daughter returns to school. Please contact me if further information is required.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_.

Emily Brennan, Principal

## **Appendix 4**

### **COVID-19 Policy Statement**

Scoil Dairbhre 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 and updated 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 hand washing techniques
- agree with staff, a worker representative who is 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 be done through the Lead Worker Representative(s), who will be supported in line with the agreement between the Department and education partners.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_