St Ciaran's Community School COVID-19 Response Plan for Parents & Students Based on 'COVID-19 Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of post primary schools'



St Ciaran's Community School COVID-19 Response Plan 2020/2021

Parent/Student Information Changes in our school in line with COVID-19 return guidelines

This is a living document and may be reviewed and amended to take into account new guidance from www.Gov.ie, www.dbei.ie, www.hse.ie, www.hpsc.ie, www.hsa.ie; www.education.ie or agreements with education partners as appropriate for post primary schools.

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Staff and Induction Training

All staff will undertake and complete COVID-19 Induction Training prior to returning to the school building. The aim of such training is to ensure that staff have full knowledge and understanding of the following:

- 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
- Outline of the COVID-19 response plan

In order to return to the workplace, staff must complete a **Return to Work (RTW)** form, which is available electronically or from the principal.

A RTW form will be completed and returned <u>3 days</u> before returning to work. There are some school staff who may be unable to return to school. Current public health guidelines have identified these people as being in groups who are defined as being at **very high risk**.

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 Principal 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.

Responsibility for the development and implementation of the COVID-19 Response Plan and the associated control measures lies with the Board of Management and school management.

Strong communication and a shared collaborative approach is key to protecting against the spread of COVID-19 in schools, and looking after the health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students. Adherence to the Return to Work Protocol will only be achieved if everyone has a shared obligation in implementing the measures contained within the Protocol in their place of work.

If a staff member has any concerns or observations in relation to the COVID-19 Response Plan, control measures or the adherence to such measures by staff, students or others, they should contact the LWR who will engage with school management.

The role of LWR is separate to that of the Safety Representative under the health and safety legislation.

The lead workers in St Ciaran's Community school will be named at a later date.

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All staff, students, parents, contractors and visitors have a responsibility, both as individuals and collectively to have due regard for their own health and safety and that of others and to assist with the implementation of the COVID-19 Response Plan and associated control measures.

Reminder to anyone attending school who has travelled abroad:

Government policy, which is based on official public health advice, continues to advise against non-essential travel overseas for everyone.

It is a requirement for anyone coming into Ireland, from locations other than those with a rating of 'normal precautions' ("green"), to restrict their movements for 14 days, and this includes school staff, parents and children or other students coming from abroad to attend school in Ireland. Restricting your movements means staying indoors in one location and avoiding contact with other people and social situations as much as possible.

Signage

Schools are required to display signage outlining the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and to support good hand and respiratory hygiene. The Department has provided printed posters to schools with age appropriate key health messages – hand washing, sneeze and cough etiquette etc.

Our school has arranged to display the posters in prominent areas such as offices, corridors, staffroom area, classrooms and toilets. Students are asked to read the posters and adhere to instructions at all times.

Making Changes to School Layout

Maintaining physical distancing in the school environment is recommended as one of the key control measures to minimize the risk of the introduction and spread of COVID-19.

Schools are required to reconfigure classrooms and other areas to support physical distancing in line with the guidance in advance of school reopening.

St Ciaran's Community School has decided on the following plan for classrooms for the academic year 2020/21:

Year group	Rooms
UPSTAIRS	
1 st years	R41
	R40
	R38
	R37
2 nd years	R35
	R36
	R34

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1	,
	R31
	R33
3 rd years	R27
	R29
	R30
	R32
	R28
DOWNSTAIRS	
TY	Two rooms now in Canteen area
5 th Years	R8
	R10
	R11
	R14
	R15
5LCA	R12
6 th Years	R2
	R5
	R7
	R9
	R16
6LCA	R26

Please note that teachers will no longer be in their own classrooms but will travel to relevant rooms in order to minimise movement of students on corridors. At no time should students be on any floor other than their assigned floor.

Access to School and Contact Log

Access to the school building will be in line with the following school procedures:

- 6th, 2nd and 3rd years will enter and exit the building via the main door using the two doors.
- Ty students will enter and exit the school building via the canteen door only.
- 5th, 5LCA, 6LCA and 1st years will enter and exit the school building via the Jim Brunnock entrance only.

At **NO TIME** should students use a door other than that assigned to then unless **IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY** when normal evacuation procedures will apply.

Students are asked to make their way to their assigned tutorial room immediately on entering the building with no congregating on the corridors or in any room other than that assigned to them, no furniture should be moved in any room and Lockers will not be in use due to the inability to ensure adequate social distancing measures.

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Arrangement for necessary visitors such as contractors and parents will be restricted to essential purposes and limited to those who have obtained prior approval from the principal. If you wish to drop in forgotten items, there will be a box in the main foyer. Make sure that the item is clearly labelled.

The Department of Education Inspectorate may also need to visit schools and centres for education to support them as appropriate in the implementation of public health advice relating to creating a safe learning and working environment for all.

The prompt identification and isolation of potentially infectious individuals is a crucial step in restricting the spread of the virus and protecting the health and safety of the individuals themselves and other staff, contractors and visitors at the workplace.

A detailed sign in/sign out log of those entering the school facilities will be maintained. The school will maintain a log of staff and student contacts.

Control Measures - To prevent Introduction and Spread of COVID-19 in Schools

One of the key messages to manage the risks of COVID-19 is to do everything practical to avoid the introduction of COVID-19 into the school. If infection is not introduced it cannot be spread. The risk of spreading the infection once introduced exists in all interpersonal interactions; student - student, teacher - teacher and teacher- student, and must be managed in all settings.

A range of essential control measures have been implemented to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID -19 virus and to protect the safety, health and welfare of staff, students, parents and visitors as far as possible within the school. The control measures shall continue to be reviewed and updated as required on an ongoing basis.

It is critical that staff, students, parents and visitors are aware of, and adhere to, the control measures outlined and that they fully cooperate with all health and safety requirements.

How to Minimise the Risk of Introduction of COVID-19 into schools:

Promote awareness of COVID-19 symptoms;

- We advise staff and students that have symptoms not to attend school, to phone their doctor and to follow HSE guidance on self-isolation.
- We advise staff and students not to attend school if they have been identified by the HSE as contact for a person with COVID-19 and to follow the HSE advice on restriction of movement.
- We advise staff and students that develop symptoms at school to bring this to the attention of the principal (or deputy principal if the principal is unavailable) promptly.
- We will endeavour to ensure that staff and students know the protocol for managing a suspected case of COVID-19 in school.

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- We will advise everyone entering the school building that they need to perform hand hygiene with a hand sanitiser.
- We will continue to advise all relevant parties that visitors to the school during the day should be by prior arrangement with the principal and should be received at a specific contract point.
- Physical distancing of 2 metres should be maintained between staff and visitors where possible.
- Classroom windows should remain open throughout the day in order to allow for adequate ventilation.

Know the Symptoms of COVID-19

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is important to know and recognise the symptoms. They are:

- High temperature
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties
- Loss of smell, of taste or distortion of taste

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 students should understand why hand hygiene is important as well as when and how to wash their hands.

St Ciaran's Community School will continue to 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).

Use of hand hygiene facilities including wash hand basins will be managed to avoid congregation of people waiting to use wash hand basins and hand sanitisers. This will be done by using permission to leave logs in student journals and extra supervision on corridors.

Hand sanitiser dispensers have bene deployed at exit and entry points of the school and classrooms and care will be taken to clean up any hand sanitizer spills to prevent risks of falls.

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Warm water is preferable to hot or cold water for hand washing but if the plumbing system only supplies cold water, a soap that emulsifies easily in cold water should be used.

Wash hand basins, running water, liquid soap and hand drying facilities are provided in all toilets, kitchens and any food preparation areas.

Hand washing facilities will be maintained in good condition and supplies of soap and towels will be topped up regularly to encourage everyone to use them.

Hot air dryers are an acceptable alternative for hand drying but must be regularly maintained. There is no evidence that hand dryers are associated with increased risk of transmission of COVID-19

Posters displaying hand washing techniques and promoting hand washing will be placed on walls adjacent to washing facilities and can be laminated or placed in a plastic sleeve. 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.

When hand rubs/gels are being used in school care should be taken to ensure that students do not ingest them as they are flammable and toxic.

Frequency of Hand Hygiene

Students and staff should perform hand hygiene:

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

Physical distancing

In St Ciaran's community school, we have put the following measures in place to ensure separation as far as possible:

- Classrooms have been allocated to specific year groups as outlined above as well as specific corridors.
- Our Canteen has been reconfigured to allow for two extra classrooms, our computer suites R33 and R35 have been reconfigured into two normal classrooms. Laptop trolleys will be used when needed.

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- Our gym balcony has been reconfigured into an extra learning/study space/extra classroom.
- Timetables have been reviewed to change room numbers and to allow for appropriate subject sampling in 1st year.
- SEN has been reviewed (As Team teaching may not always be possible at this time).
- Webcams have been installed in classrooms to allow for live streaming in the event of surplus numbers in rooms and extra supervisors have been appointed to help students access classes on laptops set up in the gym for this process
- New bins have been placed in all classrooms and on corridors to allow for the safe disposal of Wipes, PPE and waste.
- Ours staff room has been reconfigured to allow for social distancing. A further staff room has now been provided in R13 and R23 can also be used at break times
- The oratory has now been reconfigured to allow for an extra general classroom.
- The use of lockers is no longer a possibility due to inability to maintain adequate social distancing measures.
- Where students have an elective subject, they should move quickly into the new class and should be seated with members of their class cohort, observing as much physical distance as possible.
- Hand washing and/or sanitising will be required when moving between classes by teachers and students. Physical distancing between the teacher and class MUST be observed.
- Where movement of class groups between rooms is required it will be planned to minimise interaction with other class groups. We must limit interaction on arrival and departure and in hallways and other shared areas. Students must travel in single file, on left hand side of corridor and stairs. They must always be 2 meters apart. They must move swiftly and not congregate.
- On entering via your assigned doors, students are asked to move directly to their tutorial room as there will be NO ACCESS to lockers due to inability to adhere to adequate social distancing measures.
- Year group Assemblies will no longer take place in the gym as was the case previously, however, assemblies may be held using a different format.
- Social physical contact (hand to hand greetings, hugs) is not permitted.
- Where students need to move about within the classroom to perform activities (access to a shared resource) it should be organized to the greatest degree possible to minimise congregation at the shared resource. The shared resource must be wiped down after use.
- Staff and students should avoid sharing of personal items.
- Where teaching and learning involves use of keyboards or tablets, the contact surface of the device should be cleaned regularly, and hand hygiene encouraged.

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Physical Distancing outside of the classroom and within the school:

i. School drop off/collection

Arrangements for dropping off/collecting students should be arranged to maintain physical distancing of 2m where possible. Walking/cycling to school is encouraged as much as possible.

The aim of any arrangements is to avoid congregation of people at the school gates where physical distancing requirements may not be respected.

Students should access the school building via their assigned door as outlined earlier and head straight to their designated learning space/tutorial classroom.

ii. Mobile phone storage

Students are advised to leave their mobile phone at home. It will no longer be possible for Junior students to leave Mobile phones in the school office and so the safe storage of Mobile phones is the student's responsibility. Students who may need to have their mobile phone may keep their mobile phone in their school bag, switched off and normal rules as set out in our mobile phone policy will apply.

iii. Lates

All students are as always, encouraged to arrive to school on time. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, in the event of being late in the morning prior to 8:45, it will no longer be possible for students to queue up and sign in late. Students who are late to school/class will be recorded as being late by their class tutor/teacher and late detentions will be based on such rolls If however, you arrive to school after 9.35am, please sign in at the office as normal.

iv. School Code of Behaviour

Our normal school code of Behaviour applies at all times but please note an amendment to our current code which outlines our rules in relation to COVID 19. No student should put the health and wellbeing of another student at risk and should this happen, it will be dealt with as per our code of behaviour.

v. Staff

- A distance of 2m is recommended for physical distancing by staff. This is particularly relevant to distancing between adults when they are not engaged in teaching such as the staff room and arriving to work. Our staff room has been reconfigured in order to allow for such distancing.
- If 2m cannot be maintained in staff groups, as much as distance as is possible and guidance on face covering should be observed. Staff meetings should be held remotely or in small groups or in large spaces to facilitate physical distancing.
- There will be a no hand shaking policy.
- We must minimise gathering at the beginning or end of the school day.
- The staff room has been reconfigured to allow for social distancing. This means that we will now have an extra room available to staff for break/lunch/busy times. This will be in R13. A third space for use during breaktime will now be R23.

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vi. Canteen

As our canteen has been reconfigured to allow for extra classrooms, the canteen will not be available at lunch time. We will have staggered lunch times as outlined below:

1st, 2nd, 3rd = 1:10pm-1:50pm TY, 5th and 6th -= 12:30pm-1:10pm

Senior students will not be permitted to leave the school grounds at lunch time.

- Students will eat their lunch in their classroom and then they may proceed to the outside courts/pitches to their designated Zone Zone 1 & 2: Left hand side basketball court, Zone 3: Right hand side basketball court and Zone 4: Rear door of Gym via their entrance door if they wish to get some physical exercise and fresh air. If students choose to remain indoors, at no time should they enter another room not designated to their year group. Students must sit at a table and not alter the layout of the room in any way as all rooms are laid out in accordance with COVID-19 Social distancing guidelines.
- Supervision will be in place in all relevant areas at lunchtime.
- A limited lunch menu will be available and will be brought to the relevant corridor for collection. Queues will be managed by supervision and all directions should always be followed.
- Students are asked to be mindful of the fact that classes will still be going ahead as normal on the other corridors and so noise levels should be Kept to a minimum if remaining indoors.
- If remaining indoors, students are only permitted to use their designated corridor.

vii. Bathrooms

The following arrangements have been made for the use of toilets/bathrooms:

- Wheelchair access toilet has been reconfigured to allow for extra boys toilets.
- Single toilet now available beside gym for students in isolation room.
- 1st year & TY boys and girls are to use the canteen toilets. All others are to use the relevant bathrooms.
- Permission to leave slip MUST be completed before leaving the classroom.
- Use of toilets should be kept to a minimum as far as possible.
- There will be a queue system in operation at bathrooms during break and lunchtimes all students are asked to please adhere to supervisors' instructions to allow for social distancing.
- Please respect bathrooms, hand soap, sanitizers and flush toilets in order to minimise risk.
- Should bathrooms need cleaning or be missing soap, sanitizer or toilet roll, please alert the office staff/ Cleaners/Principal/DP as soon as possible so we can arrange for the prompt stocking/cleaning of bathrooms.

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• No congregating in bathrooms will be allowed.

viii. Corridors and Stairwells

Briefly passing someone in a hall is very unlikely to contribute significantly to the spread of infection if people do not have physical contact and avoid informal group discussions. However, we ask that all students always respect the personal space of others, walk in an orderly manner on the left-hand side of the corridor and avoid physical contact. Masks may be worn if students feel safer in doing so.

ix. Use of PPE in Schools

PPE will not be required to be worn within schools according to current occupational and public health guidance. However, for a limited number of staff, PPE will need to be used occasionally or constantly due to the nature of certain work activities or work areas. These might include roles such as:

Performing intimate care

Where a suspected case of COVID-19 is identified while the school is in operation.

Where staff are particularly vulnerable to infection but are not in the list of those categorised as people in very high-risk groups or may be living with people who are in a very high-risk category.

Appropriate PPE will be available for dealing with suspected COVID-19 cases, intimate care needs and for first aid. Where staff provide healthcare to children with medical needs in the school environment, they should apply standard precautions as per usual practice.

x. Masks and general behaviour

- Students and teachers will be required to wear a facial covering where 2m distancing is not possible. This means in all classroom settings.
- Students are required to have their own suitable face mask and spare masks in case loss or damage occurs. The use of snoods or any other unsuitable mask will not be permitted.
- It is essential for those wearing a cloth face covering to understand that the purpose is not to protect themselves but to reduce onward transmission and the benefit is reliant on wearing the covering appropriately. These are important protective masks and wearing such masks should never be for any purpose other than the protection of others.
- No student should use their face mask to conceal inappropriate comments, to disrupt teaching and learning or to disrespect others in any way.
- No student should make physical contact with another person, intentionally touch personal items of others or in any way put the health and wellbeing of any other person in danger.

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- At no time should the health and safety of others be compromised. This will be taken very seriously and sanctions as detailed in our school Code of Behaviour will apply.
- The use of a visor as an alternative may be considered where there is a concern regarding prolonged close contact and exposure to fluid/respiratory droplets. It can also be used, in exceptional circumstances, where it has not been possible, notwithstanding the application of the measures in the framework on physical distancing set out above, to achieve physical distancing by organisational means for large classes.
- Wearing a face covering or mask does not negate the need to stay at home if symptomatic.

Advice on how to properly use face coverings can be found here:

https://www.hpsc.ie/az/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/posters/HSE %20Face%20Covering%20Guidelines%20Poster.pdf

xi. Gloves

The use of disposable gloves in the school by students or staff is not generally appropriate but may be necessary for matters such as cleaning or intimate care settings. Routine use does not protect the wearer and may expose others to risk from contaminated gloves.

Routine use of disposable gloves is not a substitute for hand hygiene

Impact of COVID-19 on certain school activities

The Department will work with stakeholders to provide more detailed advice on school activities in advance of school reopening.

Choir/Music Performance

Choir practices/performances and music practices/performances involving wind instruments may pose a higher level of risk and special consideration should be given to how they are held ensuring that the room is well-ventilated and the distance between performers is maintained.

Sport Activities

Schools should refer to the HPSC guidance on Return to Sport.

Shared Equipment

Art – Where possible students should be encouraged to have their own individual art and equipment supplies.

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Electronics – Shared electronic devices such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards should be cleaned between use and consideration could be given to the use of wipeable covers for electronics to facilitate cleaning.

Musical Equipment/Instruments – To the greatest extent possible, instruments should not be shared between students and if sharing is required, the instruments should be cleaned thoroughly after use. Wind instruments must never be shared.

Library Policy – Where practical students should have their own books. Textbooks that are shared should be covered in a wipeable plastic covering that can be wiped with a suitable household cleaning agent between uses. Students should be encouraged to perform hand hygiene after using any shared item.

Shared Sports Equipment – Minimise equipment sharing and clean shared equipment between uses by different people.

PE – Students who have PE on a given day are permitted to wear their PE uniform only on this day.

In-school teaching & Learning - At all times, it is our aim to ensure face to face teaching and learning as we know that the face to face interaction between students and teachers and their peers is the most beneficial to all. It is our intention in St Ciaran's to operate a blended learning model from the beginning of the school year. This will involve class resources, homework sand supplementary material being shared via our on-line teaching and learning platform. This is to ensure that in the case of absence continuity of learning can still be possible. Also, in the event of further school closures, students, parents and teachers will be familiar with using our on-line platforms and allow for a seamless transition from school-based to home-based setting. Our Distance Learning Policy will outline the steps which will be taken should we need to move to on-line teaching and learning. This policy can be found on our website. If the school cannot operate safely or provide adequate supervision of students, one or more-year groups may be asked to remain at home. 3rd and 6th year students will be prioritized for face to face teaching and this will be used as a last resort

Teacher absence: Teachers will inform the Deputy Principal of unforeseen absence and will provide adequate work for all classes in their absence. Where possible, teachers will also provide work directly to their classes via their Teams site

Hygiene and Cleaning in Schools

The Department of Education will provide additional funding to schools to support the enhanced cleaning required to minimise the risks of COVID-19.

St Ciaran's Community school will follow the specific advice in relation to school cleaning which is set out in the HPSC advice and will be covered in the induction training. This advice sets out the cleaning regime required to support schools to prevent COVID-19 infections and the enhanced cleaning required in the event of a suspected cases of COVID-19.

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In summary, each school setting should be cleaned at **least once per day**. Additional cleaning if available should be focused on frequently touched surfaces — door handles, handrails, chairs/arm rests, communal eating areas, sink and toilet facilities.

If students are moving between classrooms consideration has been given to appropriate cleaning products being provided to enable them to wipe down their desk, chair and surface before leaving the room. Students are advised to have their own wipes and sanitiser however, cleaning products will be available in every room.

All staff will have access to cleaning products and will be required to maintain cleanliness of their own work area. Under no circumstances should these cleaning materials be removed from the building.

Staff should thoroughly clean and disinfect their work area before and after use each day.

Classroom windows should be left open to allow for adequate ventilation.

Cleaning/Disinfecting rooms where a student/staff member with suspected COVID-19 was present

The rooms will be cleaned as soon as practicable possible.

Once the room is vacated the room will not be reused until it has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and all surfaces are dry. Disinfection only works on things that are clean. Therefore, when disinfection is required it is always in addition to cleaning.

Person/s assigned to cleaning should avoid touching their face while they are cleaning and household gloves and a plastic apron.

Dealing with a Suspected Case of COVID-19

Staff or students should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. The following outlines how a school should deal with a suspected case that may arise in a school setting.

A designated isolation area has been identified within the school building. This will be the show room on the top corridor located beside the male toilets opposite the Deputy Principal's Office. The possibility of having more than one person displaying signs of COVID-19 has been considered and a contingency plan for dealing with additional cases put in place. The afore mentioned room can accommodate more than one person with optimal social distancing. The designated isolation area is behind a closed door and away from other staff and students.

If a staff member/student displays symptom of COVID-19 while at school, the following are the procedures to be implemented:

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- Should anyone develop symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, they must present to the Deputy Principal/Principal immediately.
- If the person with the suspected case is a student, the parents/guardians will be contacted immediately to arrange for the immediate collection of the student. It is important that all parents have the necessary arrangements in place to ensure that in the absence of a parent/guardian, another designated person has been arranged to collect the student and siblings.
- Isolate the person and accompany the individual to the designated isolation area via the isolation route, keeping at least 2 metres away from the symptomatic person and making sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from the symptomatic person at all times.
- The isolation area does not have to be a room but if it is not a room it should be 2m away from others in the room.
- Remember that the virus is spread by droplets and is not airborne, so physical separation is enough to reduce the risk of spread to others even if they are in the same room.
- If it is not possible to maintain 2m distance, a staff member caring for a student should wear a face covering or mask. Gloves should not be used as the virus does not pass through skin.
- Provide a mask for the person presenting with symptoms if one is available. He/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 and call their doctor and continue self-isolation
 at home.
- Facilitate the person presenting with symptoms remaining in isolation if they cannot immediately go home and facilitate them calling their doctor. The individual should avoid touching people, surfaces and objects. Advice should 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, arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible and advise them to inform their general practitioner by phone of their symptoms. Public transport of any kind should not be used.

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- 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.
- Arrange for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved (details at Section 7).

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 and staff and student confidentiality are essential at all times.

COVID-19 Related Absence Management

The management of a COVID-19 related absence will be managed in line with agreed procedures with the Department of Education.