

COVID-19 Code of Behaviour Appendix

This addendum to Pobalscoil Neasáin's Code of Behaviour is in response to the current Covid-19 emergency and outlines the measures we are taking in accordance with the DES and HSE guidelines on the safe reopening of schools.

Our main priority is to protect our school community and their families from any exposure to the virus, while maintaining a safe and effective learning environment for our students. To ensure that we can do this we need the full support of our parents and students. We will be very clear in our expectations of students and they will be required to take a high level of personal responsibility to keep themselves and others around them safe.

- Students who display any Covid-like symptoms must NOT be sent to school until it is certain they do not have the infection.
- Students who have travelled from a non-green list country must isolate for 14 days on their return and must not attend school until the 14 days are up.
- Students who display Covid-like symptoms during school will be immediately isolated and a parent/guardian must be available to collect them.

Measures put in place to prevent infection and to protect the school community.

Hygiene:

1. All students must bring their own mask, small ziplock plastic bag, hand sanitiser and tissues to school. Masks must be appropriate and reusable and must be placed in the ziplock bag when not in use. They must be washed overnight before being worn again.
2. Masks must be worn appropriately by students when moving around the building and during class when directed by staff. (In any case where a student is for a genuine reason unable to wear a mask a parent must contact the Principal before the reopening of school.)
3. Hand sanitisers will be placed at entry and exit points to the school and classrooms. Students are required to use these entering and exiting the school and classrooms.
4. Desks, chairs & equipment must be cleaned, as directed by the teacher, before students leave classrooms. Cleaning sprays and cleaning tissue will be provided.
5. Students must follow strict protocols regarding respiratory hygiene. They must sneeze or cough into their elbow and use and dispose safely of their tissues. Any deliberate coughing or spitting at others will be treated as a serious breach of discipline.
6. Numbers in toilets will be strictly limited, and this will be clearly displayed on the doors. Students may not enter the toilets if doing so exceeds the permitted number.
7. Water fountains in the school will not be in operation.
8. Chewing gum is strictly prohibited at all times in the building.
9. Students must have all their own materials. Sharing will not be allowed.

Movement around the school:

1. Students must observe social distance when in the building.
2. Students must enter and exit the school through the doors assigned. These doors will be assigned according to where their first/last class takes place, to minimise movement around the building.
3. When moving between classes students must move in single file, following directional arrows, on the left-hand side of the corridor.
4. There will be no access to lockers so students must carry the books required and move directly from one class to the next.
5. Students must follow staff instruction regarding any movement around the school.

School and class times:

1. Senior students will enter the building through their assigned doors between 8:25 and 8:35 and will go directly to their first classroom.
2. Junior students will enter the building through their assigned doors between 8:35 and 8:45 and will go directly to their first classroom.
3. All classes will begin at 8:50.
4. Classes will be of **one-hour** duration – a 10 minute break will be incorporated into Period 3. There will be six one-hour classes on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and school will finish at 3:20. On Wednesday there will be four one-hour classes and school will finish at 12:50.

Lunchtime:

1. To protect students, they will not be permitted to leave the school grounds at lunchtime. Therefore, lunchtime has been shortened to 30 minutes.
2. There will be no canteen facilities in the school so students must bring a packed lunch with them to school.
3. Students will remain in the area directed – e.g. their classroom – during lunchtime.

Adopted by Board of Management August 2020

To be reviewed in line with Government Guidance