



Scoil Mhuire gan Smál
Cill Choirle
Dundalk
Co. Louth

Tel: 042 93 37187
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21st August 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We understand that it is a busy time for you preparing your child to start/return to school. We are working hard in our rooms to make their return is as safe and as normal as possible.

The children will be organised into groups which they will remain in throughout the day for all indoor activities. The class will be able to mix with each other outside but not with any other class in an allocated section of the playground.

They must sanitize their hands with sanitizer provided as they enter and exit the building and at other directed times.

We would like to bring your attention to some changes which will help us maintain the safety and wellbeing of your child:

Lunches

- Ensure your child can open and close their lunchbox with as little help as possible. This should be a wipeable box such as plastic or metal.
- Choose lunch items which allow your child to open/eat/tidy independently.
- Please supply a bottle which is easily opened/closed and that does not leak as this will be stored on the carpet area.
- One small treat on Fridays only thank you. This supports our Healthy Eating policy. We would appreciate your cooperation with this as it can become upsetting for children who follow the policy and see others not doing so.
- Please bear in mind that all lunch waste will be returned within the lunchbox.
- We are a nut free school.

Uniform

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are full School Uniform days. Tuesdays and Thursdays are PE Uniform days. This is to allow you time to air/laundry uniforms throughout the week.
- Please ensure buckles or Velcro for your child's shoes if they are not able to tie laces. This is to reduce adult assistance which reduces contact.
- Practice opening/closing and putting on/taking off coats to reduce adult contact.
- All items must be labelled.
- If your child needs spare underwear, please place this in a small, labelled plastic bag inside their school bag.
- School bags will be hung on the back of the children's chairs. They will only require their lunchbox, a drink and spare underwear if necessary in their bag so large bags are not necessary.

School Resources

- All stationery such as pencils, colours, markers etc will be supplied and stored at school. There is no need to bring in any additional stationery.
- All school books will be labelled and kept at school.
- All Homework books will be sent home and the teachers will use the Seesaw App to set and correct homework.
- Please leave all toys and unnecessary items at home.
- Friday is Library Book Day. Children will return their book on this day and choose a new one for the week. The returned book is then quarantined.

Hygiene

- Please practice with your child the 20 second hand washing routine
- Please practice coughing/sneezing into a tissue and disposing of or into your elbow.
- Children do not need tissues or sanitizer in their bags, this will be provided at school.
- Please practice using sanitizer correctly.
- Unfortunately 'Sharing is not Caring' this year. Please discourage your child from sharing/swapping items such as treats and personal affects.

Communication

- As we will not be using a Homework Copy this year, please email the office secretary@kilkerleyns.ie for reasons for absence and all necessary communication.
- For safety reasons, congregating at the gate must be avoided. If you need to contact your child's teacher please make an appointment through the office.
- Seesaw has been already been set up for the new Senior Infants and will be set up for the new Junior Infants using your email. Ms Tansey will be sending this link to new parents, this has already been sent to Senior Infant parents. We will use this App to communicate Homework and for Class Announcements, so it is of great importance that you familiarize yourself with it.

Finally, we are very much looking forward to welcoming your children back to school. Senior Infants will start at 9.20 with supervision available from 9.10 onwards. For the first three days, Junior Infants will start at **9.30am** to give them a chance to enter our school after the morning rush. Junior Infants will finish at 12.30 for the first eight days and will finish at the later time of 2pm from Monday 7th September onwards.

Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday 26th August!

Best wishes,

Mrs Curran-Butler and Ms Tansey