



# SCOIL MHUIRE TRIM

Patrick Street Trim Co Meath Ireland



20th Oct 2020

## Information Update for Parents/Guardians

### ➤ **Remote Teaching and Learning:**

In case of school closure, we have developed protocols to facilitate remote teaching and learning. Please find these protocols below for your information.

### ➤ **Desktops/I.T. Devices:**

We have some desktops/devices available for student use in case of school closure. Please contact us at [info@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:info@scoilmhuiretrim.ie) if your daughter requires a desktop/device to participate in remote learning. We are initially prioritising 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year students. Likewise, please contact us if you have poor or no Wi-Fi coverage.

### ➤ **H.S.E. Advice:**

**Do not send your child to school if any of the following is true.**

**Your child has:**

- **a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more**
- **any other common symptoms of COVID-19 - a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath**
- **been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19**
- **been living with someone who is unwell and may have COVID-19**
- **an existing breathing condition that has recently got worse**

Please find below more detailed H.S.E advice in relation to Covid 19

### ➤ **Attendance:**

We ask that students stay at home and not attend school if any member of the household is displaying symptoms of Covid 19. You can communicate this to us by phoning the school office at 046-9431439 or by emailing Mr Maguire at [peter.maguire@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:peter.maguire@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

### ➤ **Contact Details**

Please ensure that we have up to date information for communications, especially communication details for person/persons who can collect your daughter from the school if parents/guardians are unavailable.

### ➤ **Parent/Teacher meetings:**

Parent/Teacher meetings have been postponed for the immediate future. Teachers will provide written feedback to parents/guardians on VSware to replace these meetings.

The dates for feedback, initially to 6<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Parents/guardians are:

6<sup>th</sup> Year: Feedback available from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

3<sup>rd</sup> Year: Feedback available from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

We will inform you of dates in relation to other year groups when they have been scheduled.

➤ **Information meetings:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Year Information meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October via Zoom at 7pm

The 6<sup>th</sup> Year Information meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November via Zoom at 7.30pm. The link to this meeting will be sent to 6<sup>th</sup> parents/guardians this week.

➤ **VShare:**

You can access the following information relating to your daughter on VShare:

- ✓ Attendance
- ✓ Punctuality
- ✓ Individual Timetable
- ✓ Behaviour
- ✓ Teacher Reports

➤ **Staying Safe:**

We are trying to keep our school community safe and free from Covid 19 by implementing our Covid 19 Response Plan and the procedures set out in our information booklets.

We thank you and your daughter(s) for your co-operation and support to date. We ask for your continued support over the coming weeks and months as we cannot become complacent.

Please remind your daughter(s) of the following:

- ✓ Masks must always be worn unless social distancing of 2 metres can be maintained
- ✓ Sanitise/wash hands regularly
- ✓ Follow the `One-Way` system in the school
- ✓ Students come directly into school in the mornings and go directly home in the evenings unless they must wait for buses. Those waiting for buses are to remain on the school grounds where they can be supervised
- ✓ Students must remain in their pods at breaktimes and lunchtimes



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## Remote Teaching and Learning Protocols

- Work will be allocated as per the timetable to avoid timetable clashes.
- Roll will be taken for each live class on VShare and teachers will keep a record of engagement and work submitted for other classes
- Microsoft Office 365 will be the platform used by teachers to upload work and assignments – Teams or One Note
- Communication may only take place during normal school hours and during the timetabled class.
- The school Code of Behaviour is applicable to remote teaching and learning including Anti- Bullying Policy, Acceptable Usage policy.
- Teaching and Learning best practice will continue to apply with students expected to present all assignments to the best of their ability and on time.
- Each piece of work will have a deadline for submission. Work submitted after the deadline will not be accepted unless there is a genuine and valid reason for the late submission. Late submissions will be recorded on Vshare.
- Students are expected to check email and Teams regularly for work.
- Year Heads and the Pastoral Team will be available to students using the chat function in teams and emails; however, they will not respond to any posts, chats after normal school hours.
- The normal school calendar will apply for online classes and communication between staff and students. Teachers will not be responding to communications at weekends or during holidays.
- **Online classes:**
  - Mute unless directed to unmute by the teacher
  - Camera off except directed by teacher to put camera on
  - Headphones must be worn during live classes and teachers may check this by asking students to turn on their camera
  - Attendance will be recorded by the teacher for each online class

- No permission to record online classes
- Classes will be 35 minutes duration for pre-recorded lessons/online classes to allow time for student engagement and feedback
- Students must engage in all remote teaching and should not engage in part time work during school hours
- All lack of engagement will be referred to the year head
- In the event of Wi-Fi or device issues **parents/guardians** should contact the relevant year head via email
- **Year head email addresses:**

1<sup>st</sup> year: [byrne.siobhan@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:byrne.siobhan@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

2<sup>nd</sup> Year: [ui.raghallaigh.lara@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:ui.raghallaigh.lara@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

3<sup>rd</sup> Year: [farrell.monica@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:farrell.monica@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

Transition Year: [coloe.geraldine@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:coloe.geraldine@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

5<sup>th</sup> Year: [nugent.frances@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:nugent.frances@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

6<sup>th</sup> Year: [casserly.bernadette@scoilmhuiretrim.ie](mailto:casserly.bernadette@scoilmhuiretrim.ie)

## H.S.E Advice

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/if-your-child-has-symptoms.html>

Do not send your child to school or childcare if any of the following is true.

### **Your child has:**

- **a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more**
- **any other common symptoms of COVID-19 - a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath**
- **been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19**
- **been living with someone who is unwell and may have COVID-19**
- **an existing breathing condition that has recently got worse**

If your child has any of the common symptoms of COVID-19 you will need to:

1. Isolate your child from other people - this means keeping them at home and completely avoiding contact with other people, as much as possible. [Read advice on self-isolation](#)
2. Phone your GP - they will advise you if your child needs a [COVID-19 test](#).
3. Everyone that your child lives with should also [restrict their movements](#), at least until your child gets a diagnosis from their GP or a COVID-19 test result. This means not going to school, childcare or work.
4. [Treat your child at home for their symptoms](#).

Your child should only leave your home to have a test or to see your GP.

If your child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 but has no symptoms, [follow the advice for children who are close contacts](#).

Follow the advice on what to do if your child:

- [is given another diagnosis by your GP](#)
- [is not tested and is also not given another diagnosis from your GP](#)
- [tests positive for COVID-19](#)
- [tests not detected for COVID-19](#)

### **Other symptoms**

If your child has symptoms such as headaches or a sore throat, keep them at home for at least 48 hours. These are not common symptoms of COVID-19, but they could be a sign of another infection. You and the rest of your family can continue your normal routine. You do not need to restrict your movements as long as you are not ill.

Keep an eye on your child's symptoms for 48 hours. After 48 hours it's usually okay to send your child back to school or childcare as long as:

- their symptoms do not get worse
- they do not develop new symptoms
- they do not need paracetamol or ibuprofen during these 48-hours

[Read guidelines on what to do if your child has a runny nose or is sneezing](#)

### **Diarrhoea**

If your child has [diarrhoea](#), they should stay at home and not go to school until they have not had diarrhoea for 48 hours.

You and the rest of your family can continue your normal routine. You do not need to restrict your movements as long as you are not ill.

## Travel abroad

Your child will need to restrict their movements for 14 days if they have just returned from a country that is not on the ['green list'](#). This means they should stay at home and not go to school. They do not need to see a GP unless they develop symptoms.

Everyone they travelled with should also stay at home for 14 days once they return to Ireland.

[View the green list of countries on gov.ie.](#)

## Children who are close contacts of someone who has COVID-19

If your child has symptoms, follow the [advice on keeping your child at home - isolate your child, phone your GP, and restrict your movements](#).

If your child has no symptoms but has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, they should:

- [restrict their movements for 14 days](#) - this includes not going to school
- get tested for COVID-19 - a [contact tracer](#) will arrange this when they call you

They should do this even if they feel well. Household members, such as siblings, do not need to restrict their movements as long as the child has no symptoms.

Children who have no symptoms but have had close contact with a case will have 2 tests for COVID-19. This is because it can take up to 14 days for the virus to show up in your system after you have been exposed to it.

The second test will be 7 days after their last contact with the person who has COVID-19. If this is close to when they had their first test, they will only have 1 test.

[Read more about children and testing](#)

## When it's okay to send your child to school or childcare

As long as your child has not been in [close contact](#) with someone who has the virus, it's usually okay to send them to school or childcare if they:

- only have nasal symptoms, such as a runny nose or a sneeze
- do not have a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more (as long as their temperature has not been lowered by taking any form of paracetamol or ibuprofen)
- do not have a new cough
- do not live with anyone who is unwell and may have COVID-19
- have been told by a GP that their illness is caused by something else, that is not COVID-19. Your GP will tell you when they can return to school or childcare.
- have got a [not detected \(COVID-19 virus not found\) test result](#) and have not had symptoms for 48 hours
- have not had diarrhoea for 48 hours

Children who are close contacts of someone who has COVID-19 should [follow the advice to restrict their movements](#).

## Runny nose or sneezing

You do not need to restrict your child's movements if the only symptoms they have are:

- a runny nose
- sneezing

They can continue to go to school or childcare if these are the only symptoms they have.

**If your child also has a high temperature (38 degrees Celsius or over) or has any other [common symptoms of COVID-19](#) - [isolate your child, phone your GP and restrict your movements](#).**

Most of the time, you do not need to phone your GP if a runny nose or sneezing are your child's only symptoms. Talk to your pharmacist instead.

A runny nose or sneezing on their own are more likely to be symptoms of a cold or other viral infection.

[Compare symptoms of COVID-19, flu and cold](#)

[Read more about colds, coughs and viral infections in children](#)

## Children and testing

Your GP will decide if your child needs a test for COVID-19.

They will usually need a test if they have:

- been in close contact with someone who has the virus
- common symptoms of COVID-19
- been in contact with someone who has symptoms

They may also need a test if they are admitted to hospital for any illness.

While you wait for their test and test result, [follow the advice on keeping your child at home](#).

Read more about [testing for COVID-19](#).

### Bringing your child to a test centre

You may need to drive your child to a test centre. They may find going to a test centre a strange experience. They will see people in protective clothing. They may find this frightening.

Explain to them what will happen before they go. You can read about [what to expect at a test centre](#).

These visual guides may also help children who need to be tested:

[Getting ready to go to the Test Centre \(Comic\) \(PDF, 5.35 MB, 3 pages\)](#)

[Getting ready to go to the Test Drive-in Centre \(Comic\) \(PDF, 4.30 MB, 3 pages\)](#)

[Autism Social Story for Testing \(PDF, 837 KB, 4 pages\)](#)

## Not-detected (COVID-19 virus not found) test result, or another diagnosis

Your child can return to their normal activities once they have been given either:

- a not-detected (COVID-19 virus not found) test result and are 48 hours without symptoms and, or
- another diagnosis, that is not COVID-19

You and anyone your child lives with will no longer need to restrict your movements.

## Positive test result or not tested and no alternative diagnosis

Your child will need to continue to [self-isolate](#) if:

- their test result is positive (COVID-19 virus found)
- they are not tested and are also not given an alternative diagnosis - if this happens they should be treated as if they have COVID-19

They'll need to remain in self-isolation until both of these apply:

- they have not had a high temperature (38 degrees Celsius or over) for 5 days
- it has been 10 days since they first developed symptoms

## **Caring for child in self-isolation**

If you are looking after a young child who is isolating there is a risk that you can become infected too. It will be difficult for you to isolate from them.

Because of this, you need to take extra care to reduce the risk of spreading the virus and restrict your movements for longer than usual.

You and everyone in your household will need to [restrict your movements](#) for 17 days - this includes the 10 days that your child is in isolation and for 7 days after your child's isolation period ends.

## **If you have symptoms or are unwell**

Self-isolate if you have symptoms or become unwell. Follow the [advice on self-isolation](#).

You may also need to:

- be [tested for COVID-19](#)
- [treat your symptoms at home](#)