

14<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**Return to School Plan**  
**St. Malachy's Boys' National School**



Dear parents/guardians,

As we look ahead to the reopening of our school on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August, we are putting together a provisional plan for the children to return to school after their summer holidays. All staff and parents want the children to return to fulltime education, but we also want everyone to be as safe as possible. We will work hard to ensure that we meet both aims.

- In accordance with DES COVID-19 Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of Primary and Special Schools **we will re-open on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August.**
- On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> & Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August staff will spend time helping all children to settle back into the new school day and changes to school routines whilst also reinforcing the good practice which you have been undertaking at home to help minimize the spread of Covid-19. This will include regular, thorough hand-washing and the use of wipes and hand sanitisers.
- We ask that each parent provides their child with a packet of tissues, a packet of anti-bacterial wipes and a small bottle of hand sanitiser. These items should be labelled with the child's name and will belong to the child but will remain in school for daily use.
- Additional guidance will be given soon concerning drop-off and pick-up times.  
**For 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> class** the 'drop-off' timeslot is likely to be between 8.45 – 9.05am, with no facility to drop the children off any earlier, due to the current restrictions. It is intended to assign each class a specific gate for their class entry in order to reduce the number of people congregating in any one area.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> class will start at the later time of 9.30am on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> & Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.** You will receive further details on drop-off and pick-up times in the coming days.
- While the school is operating under Covid-19 prevention guidance, parents are asked to remain outside the school grounds at all times to reduce footfall and the potential spread of the virus. If necessary, parents may make an appointment to see the principal after 3.00pm, when all children are safely off the premises. Contact with teachers will be by phone appointment.
- There will be no access to the Infants' or Girls' school through the boys' school yard. Likewise, boys will not be permitted to walk through the Infants or Girls school yard.