



24th February 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to announce that we have now received confirmation that schools will be reopening on a phased basis from **March 1st**, starting with **Early Start, Junior Infant, Senior Infants, 1st Class and 2nd Class children.**

We are working towards welcoming back the rest of the **children from 3rd – 6th Class on March 15th** and in the meantime, they will continue to work with their teachers online, through Seesaw.

With all of that in mind, we have begun finalising our amended Covid-19 Response Plan and our Return to School Protocols which will be available for you to view on our website over the coming days.

Please see some important points below for those returning to school next Monday, March 1st:

- Please bring all of your children's school books/copies etc back to school on Monday, in the box that they were given to you in by the school. It is important that we get these back asap as they will have to remain untouched and quarantined for 72hours before they can be used. Teachers will prepare lessons that don't require these items for the first few days.
- Schoolbags and coats should be brought to school as normal. The children will receive their school lunch and milk as normal also. Please remember to give your child a beaker of water.
- Parents/Guardians will not have any access to the school building, all contact must happen over the phone.
- Face Masks must be worn by all Parents/Guardians when on school property and please observe social distancing measures at all times.
- You can drop your child to school any time between 8:50am – 9:20am and collection times remain the same as before Christmas. Please drop and collect your child on time and don't congregate in the school yard.
- Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell or displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If your child becomes unwell while they are in school, we will contact you to come and collect them straight away. Please check <https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/> for the latest public health advice.
- Homework – No copies/books will be sent home for now. This will be reviewed after Easter. Teachers will assign one Seesaw activity for homework (Tues, Wed and Thursday) to build upon an element of teaching that is being covered in the classroom that week.
- Class Bubbles and Pods will continue to be strictly maintained.

- A 'Return to Education' declaration form will need to be completed by all Parents/Guardians for each child before they return to school. We will provide you with some more information on this in the coming days.
- As always, our HSCL Geraldine Tuohy is available on 089-2535012 or g.tuohy@stbridgethecoombe.ie and you can contact me on info@stbridgethecoombe.ie
- You can also find contact details for your child's teacher here <http://stbridgethecoombe.ie/teacher-contact-details>
- We will continue to post regular updates on the school website and on our school Instagram page @stbridgethecoombe
- You can find a number of videos messages from public health doctors by following this link <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/#health-advice-for-parents>
- You can watch the animated, child friendly video below with your child also <https://youtu.be/aW9qUCnPAk0>

We look forward to seeing the children from Early Start, Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1st Class and 2nd Class next Monday, March 1st and we will work with you to support your children over the next few weeks as they settle back into school.

Best wishes,

Michelle Stedman

Principal