



# Solas Christi National School

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Principal: Edward Kelly

Roll No: 19541P

27<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Re: Children Returning to School - March 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you, your children and families are all keeping well.

Following on from the reopening of the Speech and Language classes this week, the classes from **Junior Infants to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (inclusive)** will return to school on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**. The Classes from **3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>** are **expected to return on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021** and will continue with online teaching and learning for a further 2 weeks. All returns to school will be for the full school day.

### Pupils' Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form

In advance of your child's return to school, parents are required to fill in the **Pupils' Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form** which is available in the Attendance section when you login to **Aladdin**. This Form should be filled after 3pm on the previous day to your child's return to the school. It must also be filled in after every future absence of your child. Further details will be sent out to parents.

### Documents available on the School's Website:

At the following link on the school's website you will be able to access the following documents:

- Updated SCNS Covid-19 Response Plan Feb 2021 (SECTION 5 IS VERY IMPORTANT)
  - + Summary of required additions to the SCNS Covid-19 Response Plan
- SCNS Covid-19 Policy Statement
- Pupils' Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form (digital copy to be printed out and brought to school on your child's return – **only if you cannot access this requirement through Aladdin**)
- School Ventilation updated guidance
- Wellbeing Resources for Parents
- In-person Supplementary Programme Information

### Homework:

Children will have no homework for the first week of their return. Homework will be back to normal by the second week of your child's return to school.

### Communication

Communication with the school will continue to be by phone or online only through Aladdin or by contacting the secretary by email at [info@solaschristie.ie](mailto:info@solaschristie.ie)

### Uniforms:

Children will be required to wear their full uniform/school tracksuit as follows:

Class	Uniform	Tracksuit
Junior and Senior Infants	Monday, Wednesday & Friday	Tuesdays & Thursday
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	Tuesdays & Thursday	Monday, Wednesday & Friday
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Class	Monday, Wednesday & Friday	Tuesdays & Thursday
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class	Tuesdays & Thursday	Monday, Wednesday & Friday

**Collection and Dropping off of Children:**

Block	School Ground open	Doors Open	Children must be in school by	Children Leave School
<b>Breaks Block B JI/SI</b>	8:40am	8:40am	9:00am	1:10pm (JI – B Block Doors) 1:20pm (SI– Foyer Doors)
<b>Breaks Block C 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	8:40am	8:40am	9:00am	2:20pm onwards 4 classes at one minute intervals (2 <sup>nd</sup> a, 2 <sup>nd</sup> b, 1 <sup>st</sup> a, 1 <sup>st</sup> b)
<b>Breaks Block A 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup></b>	8:40am	8:40am	9:00am	2:15pm onwards 4 classes at one minute intervals (4 <sup>th</sup> a, 4 <sup>th</sup> b, 3 <sup>rd</sup> a, 3 <sup>rd</sup> b)
<b>Breaks Block D 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup></b>	8:40am	8:40am	9:00am	2:10pm onwards 4 classes at one minute intervals (6 <sup>th</sup> a, 6 <sup>th</sup> b, 5 <sup>th</sup> a, 5 <sup>th</sup> b)
<b>Speech and language Class</b>	8:30am	8:30am	8:30am	2:00pm

**ALL ADULTS ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS ARE PROMOTED TO WEAR A FACE COVERING**

**Drop-off Plan**

School Grounds will be opened at 8:40am:

- Drop and go system
- Children are welcome onto the school grounds from 8:40am. Please do not congregate at the gates before 8:40am
- Children walk around to their **Block Door** and walk straight in to their classroom where they will meet their teacher. Children from Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> class and 2<sup>nd</sup> class will enter the school via the Foyer doors (between Block B and Block C). Children from Junior Infants will enter the school via the Block B doors.
- The window for children entering the school is from 8:40am to 9:00am. Children who are in their class by 9:00am will be recorded as being on time for school.
- Parents of children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class must drop off their children at the school gates and allow them to walk around to their Block Door. Staff will be spread along the school grounds to monitor and direct the children.
- The Speech and Language Classes will start school at 8:30am and will be met off their bus by their class teacher.

**Collection Plan**

School outlines its collection plan:

- One Parent from Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> Class and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class is welcome to collect their child(ren) from the Junior Yard after school
- It is desirable that children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class arrange to meet their parent outside the school gates if possible
- Junior Infants will be released from the B Block doors
- Senior Infants will be released from the Foyer Doors (between Block B and Block C)
- Classes from 3<sup>rd</sup> Class to 6<sup>th</sup> Class will be released at 1 minute intervals at their timeslot (see table above)
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Class will be released from school at 2:10pm (Block D)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Class will be released from school at 2:15pm (Block A)
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Class will be released from school at 2:20pm (Block B – use Foyer doors)
- Junior Infants will be released directly to each parent at 1:10pm
- Senior Infants will be released directly to each parent at 1:20pm
- Children from Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup> class and 2<sup>nd</sup> class will exit the school via the Foyer doors

- Parents and children are requested to leave the premises as soon as possible
- Children cannot be collected early from school unless an official appointment card is presented to the school. (Unless the child is deemed to be sick by the school). The school secretary must be contacted in advance of collection by email or phone call.
- The early collection of children after 1:00pm will not be permitted

#### Parents on School Grounds

- There should only be a maximum of one adult from each family on the school grounds at any one time
- Parents are asked not to congregate at the school
- No parents are allowed into the school building, including for infants on the first day of school. The school will do everything it can to assist anxious children returning to school. If your child is anxious or upset, please stand back to a quieter place and a staff member will come to assist. We are here to make this a positive experience for parents and children.
- Toilets will not be available to parents or children after the school day has ended. This includes the toilet facilities at the school's reception.
- We kindly ask that the first five parking spaces at the main school gates are kept free for Grandparents who collect children from the school. There is plenty of parking along the Cookstown Road to the entrance of Belgard Heights

#### Ventilation

The Department has published guidance setting out the practical steps for good ventilation in accordance with public health advice 'Practical Steps for the Deployment of Good Ventilation Practices in Schools' The guidance sets out an overall approach for schools that windows should be open as fully as possible when classrooms are not in use (e.g. during break-times or lunch-times (assuming not in use) and also at the end of each school day) and partially open when classrooms are in use. The guidance provides that good ventilation can be achieved in classrooms without causing discomfort, particularly during cold weather.

#### Blocks, Bubbles and PODs

Children will continue to be divided into POD's in their classrooms. The PODs will be reconfigured after the Easter holidays.

We are looking forward to all children returning to school over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

  
Edward Kelly  
Principal

The following websites provide further information on COVID-19 and on government advice and recommendations regarding the re-opening of schools: -

- <https://www.education.ie/en/covid-19/>
- <https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/>
- <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/a128d-back-to-school/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/backtoschool/>