



Tel/Fax: 061 – 51 59 27  
Email: [info@smnslimerick.ie](mailto:info@smnslimerick.ie)  
Website: [www.smnslimerick.ie](http://www.smnslimerick.ie)  
Uimh. Rolla: 12854 S

## COVID 19 School Plan

### Underlying Principles

- This plan has been formulated to better ensure the safety, health and well-being of all members of our school community – children, parents, staff and other visitors. This plan outlines the guidelines and approaches that all stakeholders should undertake so the school can prevent the spread of infection as far as possible.
- It is not possible to eliminate the risk of infection. However, with the co-operation of all members of our school community, it is possible to minimise the risk of the virus being introduced to the school and the consequent risk of its spread.
- As well as co-operation, the flexibility and goodwill of all will be required to ensure the plan can be implemented.

### Assumptions

- All children return to school in September 2022. Bubble and pod systems are not in place at this time but can be implemented where needed.
- Good hygiene practices, such as hand washing, sneezing and coughing into elbows will be explicitly taught and promoted throughout the year.
- Carbon Dioxide monitors will be used in each room to monitor air freshness. Classrooms will be regularly ventilated.
- Additional cleaning will continue so long as the Department of Education provide additional funding.

### Crucial to the success of our COVID 19 Plan is clear communication:

- **Aladdin Connect** - All parents need to have Aladdin Connect set up – this is the main form of whole school communication, a way for us to contact the whole school immediately if there is an emergency, a way for you to keep your contact and emergency contact details up to date and our means of collecting monies and permissions for activities safely etc.
- We will not be accepting notes in from home in written format or passing on messages from teachers from the school gate.
- *\* If you are a current parent and do not have the app and need any assistance, email the office*
- *\*\* If you are a new parent and you have not received an email regarding setting up the app – please contact the office.*
- **Seesaw Family / Class Dojo** – Seesaw will be used by the teacher and parents to communicate in relation to classroom activities. Any brief notes or questions for the class teacher must be communicated through the Seesaw Family or Class Dojo app (if your

*Under the patronage of the Church of Ireland*

Saint Michael's National School, 11, Barrington Street, Limerick V94 A0K7

class teacher is using it). This is for queries regarding homework, changes to who is picking up etc.

- If a parent has a longer or more serious query or concern, they must email or phone the school office to arrange a phone call or meeting with the class teacher. These will not be discussed via SeeSaw /Class Dojo.

*\*Please get in touch if you are having any problems connecting with SeeSaw Family.*

We really appreciate your co-operation with this. We have the best interests of your children at the heart of everything we do. The Board of Management must also ensure that all staff have a working environment which is as safe as possible.

### **When to keep your child home from school:**

- The Board asks that parents remain vigilant for symptoms of COVID 19, bearing in mind that many of the symptoms are similar to other illnesses. Do not send your child to school if they have a temperature, new cough, sore throat etc. Monitor at home for 24 hours.
- If a child presents with symptoms that may be COVID 19 during school hours, parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child.
- Please also keep your child at home for 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhea, as per HSE advice.

### **Entry points**

\*Pupils in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class will enter the school via the emergency exit door near Room 5.



\* Pupils in Junior Infants, Senior Infants, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> class will enter the building via the Main Entrance.



### **Exit Points**

\*Pupils in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class will exit the school via the emergency exit door near Room 5

Pupils in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will exit via the Main Entrance

\* Pupils in Junior Infants - 1st class will also exit via the Main Entrance at their hometime.

### **End of School Day**

- Adults, who are collecting their children from school at the end of the day, should wait outside the school grounds as normal.

Parents of children in Junior Infants and Senior Infants can wait for their child at the end of the ramp as before.

### **Staff Room**

Staff will be reminded to exercise good hygiene practices when using the kitchen. All surfaces must be wiped down after use to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

### **Wet Play**

On rainy days the children will stay in their classroom and remain seated doing activities at their desk. The teacher on duty will supervise each class from the doorway going between the classrooms.

**Ventilation** – See info from Department of Education

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ad236-guidance-on-ventilation-in-schools/> (last updated December 2021)

## **Handwashing**

Children will wash their hands when they come in from the playground (before eating) each day. Parents are asked to provide a small hand towel or tea towel in a plastic bag which needs to be changed daily. Your co-operation with this is greatly appreciated.

## **Dealing with a suspected case of Covid-19**

Pupils should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of Covid-19. If a pupil displays symptoms of Covid-19 while in school, the following procedures will be implemented:

- Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child as soon as possible.
- The child will wait away from the classroom until they are collected to avoid any potential spread. Depending on the availability of staff to supervise, they may wait outside the classroom door, by the office or at the bench at the front of the school (weather permitting).

## **Shared Equipment**

By necessity, some classroom equipment needs to be shared including tablets, laptops and the equipment used for maths/language activities and play activities in Infant classrooms. Cleaning of such shared equipment with wipes or other cleaning products will take place at regular intervals to minimise the risk of the spread of infection.

## **Learning Support**

In keeping with our Special Education policy, learning support will be provided by a blended approach of in-class support and withdrawal.

## **PPE**

Staff who are attending to particular care needs or who are administering first aid will wear appropriate PPE

## **Teacher Absence and Substitution**

In the event that a teacher is unable to attend school, every effort will be made to secure a substitute teacher for the class. If a substitute teacher is not available, the class may be split to work in other classes for the day or support teachers may be required to teach classes. If a number of teachers are absent and substitute teachers cannot be sourced, it may not be possible for a class/classes to attend on that day. If that is the case, as much notice as possible will be given to parents.

### Collection of Monies

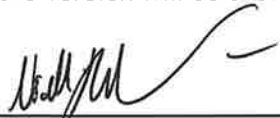
All collections of money will be made via Aladdin Connect. This is to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

This plan was ratified by the Board of Management on 3.10.2022.

**This is a working document, will be reviewed regularly. This plan is subject to change in accordance with best practice and guidance from the relevant authorities.**

The most up to date version will be available on the school website.

Signature



The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane

Chairperson of the Board of Management

Date 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2022

