

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope you and your families are all well and that you all have enjoyed a lovely summer break.

We are glad to be able to reopen our school and we have worked hard to try to ensure a safe reopening for all. We have had a lot of work completed on our school premises during the summer. We are very excited about our new running track which will be completed in the near future and will greatly add to the physical health and wellbeing of the students and staff here. We welcome new families to our school community and wish them well as we work together to ensure that every school day is a great day for all.

As we begin our new school year I would like to draw your attention to our updated Covid Response PowerPoint and resources on our school web site <a href="here">here</a>. These have been put together by our Covid Response Team and include practical information on how our school will operate this term and also links to any resources for families.

We would ask all parents/guardians re-familiarise themselves with the protocols outlined in our <u>PowerPoint</u>. Many of these are very similar to last year. Please be patient as we endeavour to embed these necessary precautionary and protective practices again at the beginning of the school year.

## It is imperative that

- adults social distance, avoid congregation on school grounds and wear masks.
- parents do not try to have meetings with members of staff in the playground at drop-off and collection times meetings between parents and teachers can only take place by prior arrangement.
- all parents adhere to the drop-off and collection plans as outlined in our Return to School document as linked on our web site here.

**Arrivals and Dismissals** will continue as per last year. Please check the powerpoint for the correct time for your daughter's class. Staggered lunch breaks will also remain in operation.

Classrooms: In order to keep your children safe, we will continue to place each of our students into pods and class bubbles.

**Return to School Declarations:** All parents must complete a Return to School Declaration for each child before the child resumes school. This will be sent to you via text.

Reminder to anyone attending school who has travelled abroad: Government policy, which is based on official public health advice, will advise families and the school regarding overseas travel. Restricting your movements means staying indoors in one location and avoiding contact with other people and social situations as much as possible.

It is imperative that your child does not attend school if there is any doubt that they may be a close contact, if they have been asked to restrict their movements or if displaying any symptoms, however mild.

Please find attached the most recent Isolation Guide for Children and Adults which will clarify many of the questions we all have.

We ask sincerely that you are familiar with both documents and please continue to stay safe and keep your distance.

All of the above is in line with our Covid 19 Safety Statement and Risk Assessment, however, as with everything in these times it is fluid, subject to change and dependent on the latest advice from the HSE and Department of Education (DE).

School will again be different for all of us when we return and as always will need your cooperation and support to keep us all safe. As everyone is aware there has been a high level of cases in our community in recent times. We trust that everyone will adhere to social distancing, hygiene guidelines and Covid protocols.

Finally, as always, please feel free to contact us by email (info@stangelasns.ie) should you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy year ahead.

Mise le meas,

Nessa Maloney

Principal

