

**Scoil na Croise Naofa
Geashill NS
Geashill,
Co. Offaly,
R35 W253.
057 9343754
geashillnsoffice@gmail.com
www.geashillns.ie
Roll No. 091911
Registered Charity No. 20204543**

Dear Parents,

The Board of Management and school staff are looking forward to welcoming Junior Infants to 3rd Class back to school on Monday, 1st March.

Our arrangements for morning drop off and evening collection are the same as before and can be viewed in full at this link:

<https://www.geashillns.ie/wp/wp-content/uploads/DropoffPickupFinal.pdf>.

Even though 4th to 6th Classes are not returning yet I am asking you all to follow the timetable as if they are and to drop your children at the same time you did in the first term and at the same drop off point. A reminder of the times can be seen below.

Remember when reading this table only look for the class your oldest child is in. That is the time all your children should be dropped at.

Morning

6th Class & Siblings	9am - 9:10am
4th & 5th Classes & Siblings	9:10am - 9:20am
2nd & 3rd Classes	9:20am - 9:30am
Senior Infants & 1st Class	9:10am - 9:20am
Junior Infants	9:20am - 9.30am

Afternoon

Junior Infants	1:55pm
Senior Infants	2:05pm
For the classes below read the table by looking for the class your oldest child is in.	
6th Class & Siblings	2.50pm
4th & 5th Classes & Younger Siblings	2.55pm
2nd & 3rd Classes & Younger Siblings	3.00pm
1st Class	3.00pm

- On arrival children will go directly to their classrooms via their designated entry point.
- Pupils should only be dropped at the school during their designated drop off slot.
- No children can be dropped to school before 9am.
- Staff will be at the drop off points to guide children to their entry doors.
- It is important that drop off and pick up are done both quickly and safely while at all times adhering to 2m distance as per government guidelines.
- There should be no congregation at the school gates.

Return to Education Form

Please ensure you have this form filled for each child before they return to school. It will also need to be completed after any absence. It can be found at this link:

<https://www.geashillns.ie/covid-info/return-to-educational-facility-parental-declaration-form/>

When to keep your child at home

Do not send your child to school if any of the following is true.

Your child has:

- a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more
- any other common symptoms of coronavirus - a new cough, loss or changed sense of taste or smell, or shortness of breath
- been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus
- been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus

When it's okay to send your child to school

It's usually okay to send your child to school if they:

- only have nasal symptoms, such as a runny nose or a sneeze
- do not have a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more (as long as their temperature has not been lowered by taking any form of paracetamol or ibuprofen)
- do not have a cough
- have not been in close contact with anyone who has coronavirus
- do not live with anyone who is unwell and may have coronavirus

- have been told by a GP that their illness is caused by something else, that is not coronavirus. Your GP will tell you when they can return to school or childcare.
- have got a negative ('not detected') coronavirus test result and have not had symptoms for 48 hours

More detailed information for parents on all of this can be found at this link and I am asking all parents to look at it and become familiar with it:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/>

Dealing with a Suspected Case in School

- If your child develops symptoms during the school day, they will be brought to a separate room to other students.
- Their temperature will be taken.
- Parents will be contacted to collect the child.
- Parents should contact their GP who will advise the next steps to be taken.

School Response to a Confirmed Covid-19 Case

- The HSE will inform any staff or parents of children who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process.
- The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of Covid -19 is made.
- The instructions of the HSE should be followed and pupil and staff confidentiality is essential at all times.

The three points above are taken directly from the Dept. of Education guidance to schools and will be strictly followed in the event of a confirmed case.

Communication

- As always we want to keep good lines of communication between home and school.
- Please ensure we have your correct contact details.
- All meetings/phone discussions with teachers will be by pre-arranged appointment only.
- Parents should first call the office at 057 9343754 before leaving in a forgotten lunch box or if a child needs to be collected early.
- All class teachers will continue to use Class Dojo.
- Our website www.geashillns.ie will be regularly updated with the most up to date school information.
- Our Twitter account @GeashillNS is also worth a follow also.

Letter from the Minister for Education

Please take the time to read a letter to parents from the Minister For Education which can be found at this link:

<https://www.geashillns.ie/wp/wp-content/uploads/Letter-to-parents-and-guardians-24-Feb.pdf>

Please feel free to contact me about any of the above by ringing 057 9343754.

Looking forward to seeing the girls and boys on Monday.

Micheál Hyland

