



28/08/20

Dear Parent(s),

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school this Monday. I am attaching the virtual tour of our school [here](#). We kindly ask that you complete a return to school form [here](#) on behalf of your child. This form must be completed before your child(ren) returns to school. I have also attached a list of [Frequently Asked Questions here](#).

### **New Guidelines**

Further Government Guidelines were issued yesterday to all schools and I have summarised them below.

**A child with a blocked or runny nose, but no fever can attend school but if they require paracetamol or ibuprofen, they must stay at home for 48 hours and a parent should contact a GP to assess whether a test is required.**

**It is okay to send your child to school if you, the parent, has been told by a GP that their child's illness is caused by something else, that is not coronavirus.** A GP will tell you if your child can return to school. We would appreciate however that you would inform the school in writing what your child's GP's advice is.

**Do not send your child to school or childcare 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 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

**If a child displays symptoms which may be consistent with Covid-19, the school will contact their parent or guardian and ask them to collect their child as soon as possible.** The child will be cared for appropriately by a staff member whilst they are waiting to go home. The isolation space will be cleaned and contact surfaces disinfected when vacated. The staff member who has cared for the child with symptoms during this time will not need to go home unless subsequently advised to by Public Health HSE. **Schools do not need to inform parents that a pupil or teacher has been removed due to their symptoms.** Other pupils or staff do not need to be removed from class. Previously we had arranged to vacate classes from classrooms if a child or staff member if that person displayed a Covid 19 symptom. Government guidelines advice against this practise.

At this stage, no further action by the school is required. **Schools are asked to note that they should not inform other parents or staff members that a pupil or staff member has gone home due to their symptoms. Other pupils or staff do not need to be removed from class, including siblings or other household members.**

**When a case has been confirmed, the Medical Officer of Health and teams will liaise directly with the school and inform them of the confirmed case as necessary and will undertake a Public Health Risk Assessment to inform any further actions and recommendations such as a school closure.**

**Close contacts will be directly notified by the HSE** and advised to restrict their movements and present for testing on day zero and day seven. Close contacts will restrict their movements for 14 days even in the event that Covid 19 is not detected in both of these tests.

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It has been an extremely busy time preparing for the school to re-open. This would not have been possible without the help of the Board of Management and the school staff who have worked tirelessly over the summer to ensure that we return to school in a safe and secure manner.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at [mrjgibbons@kilricklens.com](mailto:mrjgibbons@kilricklens.com).

Le gach dea ghúí,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colm Gibbons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Colm Gibbons  
Kilrickle N.S.