



Reopening Our School



Back to School Friday 28th August

Dear Parents & Pupils,

The 'Back to School' countdown always begins this time of year, but this year that countdown is anticipated more than ever. The following few pages will outline our plan to ensure we have **every** child back to school **every day**. We have worked really hard on this plan and I would like to thank the staff, board of management and parents' council for working together on this. There may be some inconvenience, but in truth I hope that if we all work together, we can make sure all the children are back to school together once more.

While there is much to consider, I would ask that you try and limit the children's anxiety to coming back to school as much as possible. We will all work together on the 'new normal.' Our priorities over the next few months will be reengaging the children with school life, friendships and the new routines. We will focus on everyone's well-being, maintaining our positive school environment, and taking things one step at a time.

The new measures on the coming pages, are being put in place for the health and safety of the whole school community. Answers to some of your questions and the full version of this document are available on our school website www.caraghns.ie. Please visit our website for regular updates.

See you all very soon,
Caragh NS Staff

More Details on www.caraghns.ie

Staggered Day

We will return to school on a staggered day. Not all classes will arrive and depart school at the same time. Classes will be assigned to certain gates and doors for entry and departing school. Please take note of these.

For this to work effectively it is important we are all on time for school each day.

We will continue to use the Parish Gate as normal, and this area might prove extremely helpful for families.

Children can come and go through this gate and go straight to their assigned door. We will have different break and lunch times also, therefore limiting numbers on the yard. Please refer to the Group Timetables and Maps below for full details.

Groups

The classes are divided into 3 distinct Groups

Red, Orange & Green.

Please take note of the Groups as there are different start & end times for each group.

Bubbles

Each individual class is a bubble. We must limit the interaction between bubbles in school and on yard

Pods

Groups of children within the class bubble are referred to as a Pod. Pods are formed for the sharing of equipment. Children from different pods can play & interact together on yard

Yard time

Not all classes will be on the yard at any one time. Each group (Red, Orange, Green) will have their own time on the yard. This is to limit interaction between bubbles. This means each class will have its own section on yard = much more space in which the children can play.

Will the Classroom look Different?

Yes & No!!!

For Infants - 2nd class the rooms will not look all that different from before. There will still be groups as before. 3rd - 6th class will look a little different. Here we can't have groups, but 2 children will sit at either end of a desk and spaced out from the next desk.

Pencil Case & Boxes

We feel it would be best practice for children to have a pencil case for school and one for home so as to limit the amount of equipment coming in and out of school. We will also be purchasing a box for each child's books in which items can be left at the end of each day.

Children from Junior Infants to 2nd class do not have to adhere to the **physical distancing** rule of 1 metre as much as those from 3rd to 6th class. Luckily, our senior classes are on the smaller size this year.

Where do I go?

Enter the school through the assigned gate, then follow the route to the correct door. Doors 1-7 as per map. Gates A, B, C Here class teachers will meet the children and give them time to form a line. Teachers will sanitise the children's hands before they enter the school. Doors will then be closed.

If late go to the Main door. Door 1.

At Home time children will leave the school through their assigned Gate and can be collected here if necessary or at the Parish Field.

Accessing the School

Cars will no longer be permitted through the school gates as children will be coming to school through all 3 gates.

Mums & Dads will now have to say their goodbyes at the school gates for all children.

Forgotten Items will have to be left in a box inside the front door from where children can collect them

Infant Parents

New Junior Infants. Please note that we have a separate routine for the first two weeks. This will be emailed to you also.

Senior Infant parents will be able to walk children to their assigned door for the first few mornings.

Unfortunately, parents will no longer enter the school building for drop off / pick up. Children can be collected from their assigned gate at the front of the school only and not from the Parish gate.

Hand Hygiene

We will promote hand hygiene with the children at all times. We will have plenty of hand sanitiser in school. Children from 2nd - 6th class will be permitted to bring their own sanitiser, but the recommendations are that younger children should not.

P.P.E.

Teachers will wear face coverings when they cannot maintain 2m distance. SEN teachers & SNA staff will wear face coverings at all times. Children in primary school are not required to wear face coverings.

After School Activities

Unfortunately, we will have to pause all after school activities for now.

Uniforms / Tracksuit

Children should wear uniform as normal.

Cleaning

Our school will be thoroughly cleaned each day - tables, chairs, bathrooms, carpets, and all 'touch points.'

Can I come to School?

As a rule of thumb, any child who feels unwell should not come to school. We will not be checking everyone's temperature but may check a child only if we have concerns. **If your child has been to the GP for other than Covid reasons and may present with a high temperature, please inform us.**

Bus

All bus children will come to school together as before regardless of start time and will be facilitated here in the school. They will use Gate B and Door 1.

Timetable for Groups

Start: 9:00am
Break: 10:45-10:55
Lunch: 12:30 – 1:00
Home: 1:40 (Infants) *
 2:40 (1st -6th)

Start: 9:10am
Break: 11:00-11:10
Lunch: 1:00 – 1:30
Home: 1:50 (Infants)
 2:50 (1st -6th)

Start: 9:20am
Break: 11:15-11:25
Lunch: 1:30 – 2:00
Home: 3:00pm

***** Junior Infants to start at 9:30 / 9:45 and finish at 12:30 / 12:45 for the first two weeks. *****

Door	Class
1	Juniors A Ms Banks
2	Seniors C MsMcCormack
3	3 rd A Ms Troy
4	Fourth Class B Ms Kenny
5	2 nd Class A Ms Marsh
6	5 th Class A Ms Duggan
7	6 th Class A Ms Mullally

Door	Class
1	Juniors B Ms O Reilly
2	Seniors A Ms Hanly
3	Seniors B Ms Cummins
4	3 rd B Ms Hamill
5	1 st Class A Ms McNulty
6	5 th C Ms Burke
7	6 th Class B Ms Cantillon

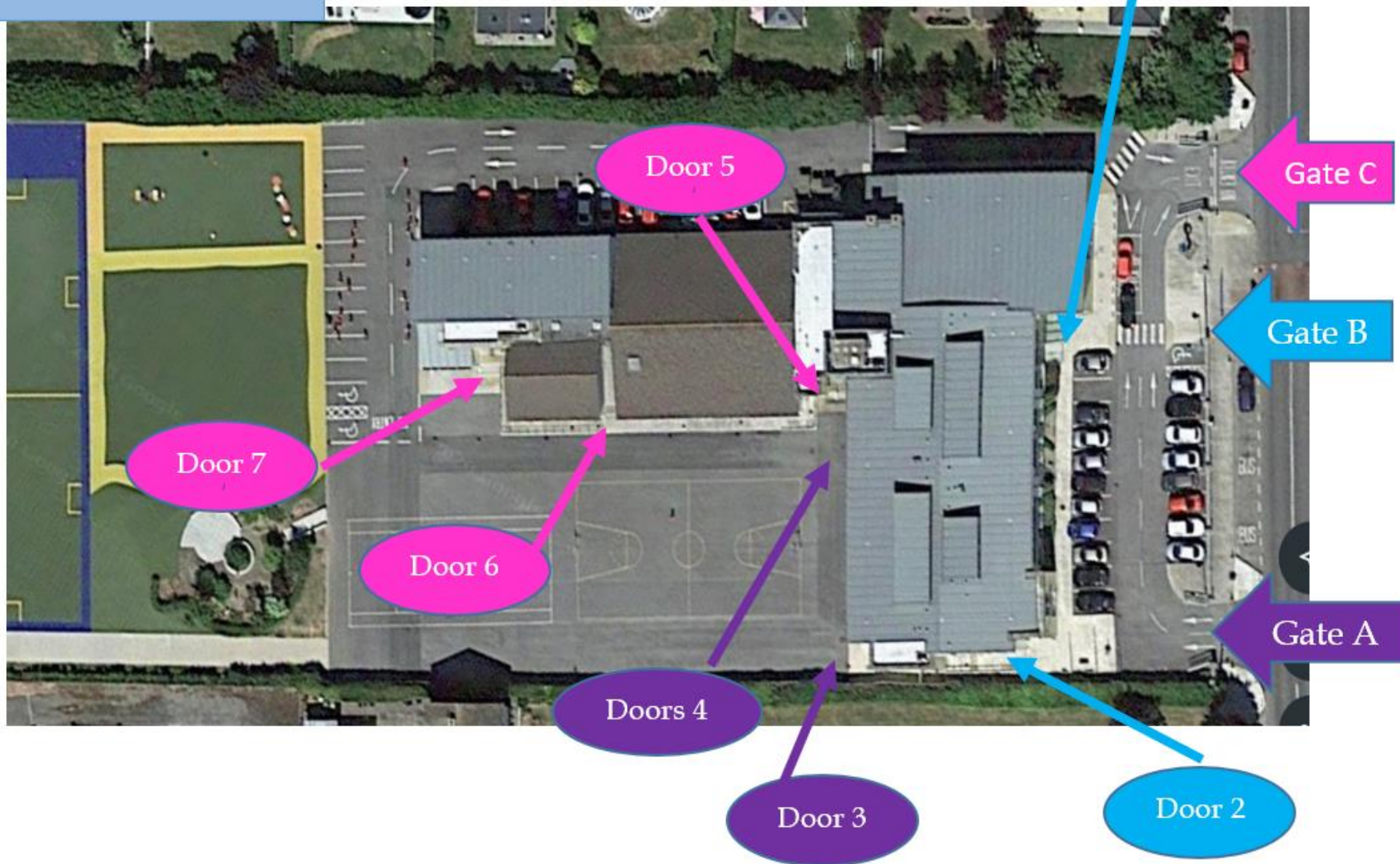
Door	Class
1	
2	
3	4 th Class A Mr Rogers
4	5 th Class B Mr Dunlea
5	First Class B Ms Shally
6	2 nd Class B Ms Dunleavy
7	6 th Class C Mr Corkery

GATE A: Doors 3 & 4. Through small gate to the side of the school.

Gate B: Doors 1 & 2. Cross the Zebra Crossing

Gate C: Doors 4, 5, & 6. Around the back of the school.

Access to Our School Each Day



Door 1
Main Door

Door 2
End of Infant
Corridor

Door 3
Through Small
Gate

Door 4 & 5
Corner of Yard

Door 6
To Sunnystreet

Door 7
Beside Astro