



11/03/2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you know there is an ongoing outbreak of a COVID-19 (Coronavirus) internationally and Ireland is affected. Details of affected areas where COVID-19 is circulating in the community are available on HSE.ie. The HSE HPSC is monitoring the situation and updating its website www.hpsc.ie daily.

All schools – including Lucan CNS – are being guided by the advice and direction of the HSE via the Department of Education. Any decision regarding school closures will be made by the Department of Education and advised to schools.

At this moment in time there is no directive that schools close and schools are advised to continue as normal – with a high degree of vigilance in terms of our hand washing/hygiene practices and good cough/sneeze hygiene.

Steps we are taking in Lucan CNS

In an effort to play our part in containing the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our school community, we are taking the following steps:

- The Féile due to take place on Monday 16th March for will now be rescheduled for a later date after the Spring/Easter holidays.
- The school will monitor participation in events and activities outside the school between now and the Spring/Easter holidays and assess on a case-by-case basis.
- Additional cleaning has commenced in the school and additional hand washing and cleaning procedures have been implemented across the school.
- Explicit lessons on hygiene practices outlined by HSE (e.g. hand washing/hygiene practices and cough/sneeze hygiene)



Working at home in the event of a sudden school closure:

We are putting together contingency plans in the event of a sudden school closure. Activity sheets, workbooks (where applicable) and copies will be put in children's schoolbags over the coming days. These items should be left in bags and not be used/completed/filled in, unless directed to do so by the class teacher. In the event of a sudden school closure, teachers will contact parents by email/Class Dojo with direction on weekly work/activities.

Important information in relation to COVID-19:

The HSE website outlines the symptoms and steps to follow if you have been to an affected area or have been in contact with a confirmed case:

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>

The Department of Education has a number of resources on their website to keep you informed:

<https://www.education.ie/en/The-Department/Announcements/information-for-schools-preschools-and-third-level-institutions-on-the-coronavirus.html#4>

The Chief Medical Officer has the following advice to parents of school children:

<https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/National-Emergencies-Public-Health-Issues/letter-cmo-to-parents-020320.pdf>

Information for schools/parents:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/educationguidance/Advice%20for%20schools%20preschool%20settings%20and%20parents%20V3.pdf>

Yours sincerely,

Claire Downes