

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does she need to wear a uniform?

Yes. However, we are offering flexibility to families and encourage the following schedule: Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday to wear the school uniform. Tuesday/ Thursday to wear the school tracksuit. We have received lots of pre-loved school wear from families over the Summer and are happy to share what we can with families who may need them. Please contact the school office for more info on 059/9151875.

2. Does she need a face mask?

No, your daughter will not be required to wear a facemask at school. It is parental choice if you wish for her to do so. If she does, she will need at least 2 more facemasks to ensure that it can be changed after eating.

3. Can I give her hand sanitiser to use?

Yes, we have asked that all children come to school with a zip lock bag/ container to include hand sanitiser for own use and tissues. Sanitiser must be used under the supervision of an adult at all times, therefore it can only be applied under the guidance of the teacher.

4. Will she be playing with her friends?

Yes, all the children will still have their usual playtime outside. This year they will be playing in their class bubble. Whilst in class the children will be in smaller groups called pods. In their pods they can work together but we are encouraging children to have their own materials and stationary etc.

5. Where do I drop her off/ pick her up?

Please see the school website for the full guidance note on drop off and pick up. Alternatively, please see previous correspondence that was sent to you.

6. My daughter is in 1st/2nd/3rd/4th class- I usually pick her up outside of the school ground, can I still do this?

Yes. We encourage all children to meet an adult away from the school site e.g across the road, Church carpark etc. Our aim is to have as few adults on the premises where possible.

7. What happens if my child's teacher becomes unwell? Will the class be split?

No. In the event that a staff member becomes unwell or presents with any signs of Covid, a substitute teacher will be put into the class for the duration of their absence. In the event that a substitute is unavailable a member of staff will teach the class until a substitute is available.

8. What happens if there is a suspected case in my child's class?

The child will be brought to the designated isolation area in the hall via the isolation route, keeping at least 2 metres away from others.

A mask will be provided to the child presenting with symptoms. Advice will be given to the child to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and to put the tissue in the waste bag provided.

The Principal/ secretary will call the parent/ guardian using the phone number provided. If in the event that the number cannot be reached she will call the child's doctor.

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- The parent/ guardian will be asked to come to the school immediately to bring their child home. Public transport of any kind should not be used
- If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, 999 or 112 will be contacted and informed them that the sick child is a Covid-19 suspect.
- Carry out an assessment of the incident which will form part of determining follow-up actions and recovery. Arrange for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.
- Children will be asked to leave their class and go to the evacuation area in the Art Room/ Skipping Shed whilst cleaning is underway. Once cleaning has been completed they may return to their class.

***** if we cannot get through to you we will be required to phone your child's doctor or 999 for further advice on how to proceed.**

9. What happens if my child is presenting with symptoms?

If unwell, please stay at home.

10. Will after school's activities be going ahead?

No. All activities have been put on hold until further notice.

11. What happens if the school has to close again?

In the event of closure, advice will be administered from the DES and the school as to how we will proceed. Children will be sent home with their books and work for any closure. Teaching and learning will continue at home using a variety of platforms.

12. If I need to pick my daughter up early what should I do?

Call or email the school on 0599151975 or tullowgns.ias@eircom.net and let us know your intentions. We will have your daughter ready for you at reception and you will be asked to wait outside the building.

13. How do I contact the school or my child's teacher?

0599151875 is the number of the school. Fiona is the Secretary. tullowgns.ias@eircom.net is the school email. If you need to email your child's teacher, all the email addresses are available on www.smltullow.ie under the About Us/ Staff heading.

14. Will there be homework?

For September we will have a 'no homework' policy. The school will inform you as to when homework will resume.

15. What is a pod or bubble?

A 'pod' is a group of children in a class. A class is referred to as a 'bubble'. The class teacher will organise the pods within each bubble taking into consideration friendships, learning needs etc.

16. If I have a question who can I ask?

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Ms. Coen can be contacted on principal@smltullow.ie or any class teacher using their personal email address as per the school website, staff details list.