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Scoil Lios na Groí

Lisnagry National School



Dear Parent(s),

I hope that you and your families are all managing to keep safe and well in this challenging time we are all currently in.

I am very aware of the amount of information you are being bombarded with constantly about this virus and the issues we are having in schools because of it. There is so much confusion as to what we are supposed to do regarding symptoms and attendance at school. When in doubt here at school, I always refer to the Isolation Quick Guide for parents on the HSPC website and I have attached the most recent version of this here for you, updated on 24th November. If you look at it, it outlines 14 different scenarios and gives you the straightforward guidance about what to do next. It's a good one to print out and keep handy to refer to.

Also, we are being told that as of next Monday 29th November, antigen testing of close contacts of a confirmed Covid-19 case in the school setting will be offered to parents. We are still awaiting the exact details of how they intend to operate this and how to give the antigen tests to parents but when I get it, I will pass the details onto you. Please do remember that antigen tests are only to be used on children that are non-symptomatic. If they have a symptom, then it's a PCR test that is required.

In the meantime, we will continue to do as much as we can here to keep everyone safe. We are keeping doors and windows open as much as we can to offer the best ventilation, but the school is without a doubt very cold. Having the doors and windows open as much as possible is keeping our CO2 monitors green that is a positive sign to us throughout the school day. We are encouraging the children to wear extra layers of clothing to stay warm. The heating is on of course but with doors and windows open, its effect is obviously reduced considerably.

Lastly, thank you all once again for your ongoing support. With a little over 3 weeks remaining until the Christmas break, we hope that you will all stick with us, follow the guidelines, and continue to be understanding of the importance of restricting your child's movements immediately if they show any signs of the virus and organise a PCR test for them.

I also urge you to please let me know if your child tests positive for Covid-19 as this really helps us to monitor the children close by and to act quickly. From next Monday thankfully, I will be able to inform you if your child is a close contact of a positive case here at school, without giving you the name of the child of course.

If you are unsure about any of the information above or have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact us here at the school and we will do what we can to help. Amidst all the doom and gloom of Covid it is important for you to know that we are doing our utmost to create a 'normal' atmosphere at school for the children. Their teachers are ensuring that some fun and joy is a predominant part of their school day. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season with them over the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

Michael Feeney

