



Dunmore Community School

Dunmore, Co. Galway. H54 KP03

Web: www.dunmorecs.ie

Email: secretary@dunmorecs.ie accounts@dunmorecs.ie

Phone: (093) 38 203

24th September 2020

Dear parent/guardian,

Having almost three full weeks under our belts, I am extremely impressed with how positively the school community have adapted to the many changes we have had to implement in order to ensure a safer environment for all our staff and students. Base classrooms, double classes, staggered breaks are but a few of the procedures we have had to implement. However, I would ask parents/guardians to keep emphasising to your child the importance of them sanitising their hands and wearing masks to prevent the potential spread of Covid-19 when they are not socially distanced e.g. at break times, and to ensure they use hand sanitiser and wash hands when appropriate.

Please note the following few important updates:

Wi-Fi and Mobile Phone use:

We are trialling the use of Wi-Fi with students **for educational use only**. A teacher may request students to use their phones during a class, but that is the only time they are permitted to use the phone during the day. Students using their phones at any other time during the school day will have it confiscated until the following day. We ask parents/guardians to please read the relevant sections of page 13 and 14 of the journal with your child.

Absenteeism:

For the moment we are asking parents/guardians to email their child's Yearhead in relation to 'Permission to Leave', 'Late Slips' and 'Absenteeism Slips'. Please email your child's yearhead using the appropriate email address below:

1st Yrs: sdoyle@dunmorecs.ie 2nd Yrs: mgrehan@dunmorecs.ie 3rd Yrs: padraimcgagh@dunmorecs.ie,
TY & LCAs: mscarry@dunmorecs.ie 5th Yrs: cgreally@dunmorecs.ie 6th Yrs: bstockhaus@dunmorecs.ie

and attach a photo of a completed pink section of the student journal. Alternatively, just email the yearhead with the Subject line containing the Child's name and absent dates and in the body of the email explain the absence etc.

In the current pandemic, it is extremely important that **if your child displays symptoms of COVID-19** that they remain at home, and you seek the advice of your Doctor.

Collection of your child:

Please note the school building is currently out of bounds for visitors/parents without a prior appointment. If you need to collect your child during the day for an appointment, please emailing the yearhead beforehand, drive up the area in front of the Sportshall, and call 093 38203 and we will sign your child out. We can only sign your child out when you arrive at the school to collect them.



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What to do if a child has symptoms of COVID-19:

Students who have [symptoms of COVID-19](#), including fever, new cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulties, or loss or change to their sense of smell or taste, should not attend school. Please phone your doctor and follow [guidance on self-isolation](#). Your doctor will advise whether COVID-19 testing is required and will arrange testing if necessary.

If your child develops symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 while in school, they should tell their teacher, Yearhead or management and we will contact parents to immediately collect their child. They will be taken to a designated isolation area within the school building to wait for collection.

School Meals 2020-2021:

Subject to Department funding this year, we hope to offer the school meals programme for 2020-2021. If you wish to apply, please click on the following link and complete the form carefully.

<https://tinyurl.com/DCSMeals2020>

Closing date for applications is this **Monday, the 28th September at 5:00pm.**

School Closure:

As noted in a previous email and on our school calendar, this Monday, the 28th September the school will be closed. We hope all our students enjoy a well-earned long weekend.

Thank you all for your continued support and keep safe,

Kind regards,

Declan Quinn