



OLOW Updated Covid Guidelines for Parents

Thank you to all parents and guardians for your on-going support in keeping our school community as safe as possible.

Please continue to follow all safety measures which are in place. We emphasise the importance of wearing a face mask when dropping and collecting children.

See below the most recent information with regards to the new Covid-19 contact tracing programme for primary schools.

How the new programme will work?

- ✚ When a parent receives a 'detected'/positive PCR COVID-19 test result on their child, they should notify the school principal immediately.
- ✚ The school principal will inform the parents of the children in the case's pod that they are close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case. The name of the case or any other details will not be shared.
- ✚ The children in the affected pod will have the opportunity to order antigen tests from the distribution company.
- ✚ The antigen tests will be posted to the parents of the children in the pod.
- ✚ Parents carry out the antigen test on the day that they receive it and every second day until three tests have been done.
- ✚ The children in the pod can continue to attend school as long as they remain asymptomatic and their antigen test results remain not detected.

If a child's antigen test indicates a positive result:

- ✚ If an antigen test is positive, the child isolates at home and the child's parent/guardian logs onto the HSE to request a PCR test.
- ✚ The antigen test distribution company will record the numbers of antigen tests distributed, batch numbers and the names of the relevant schools.

If a child develops symptoms of COVID-19:

- ✚ If at any stage a child becomes symptomatic, they should isolate at home and organise a COVID-19 PCR test if indicated. A 'not-detected' antigen test holds no value in this situation of a symptomatic child.

If two or more cases arise in a class, outside a single pod:

- ✚ In a case where two or more cases arise in a class, within a seven-day period, outside of a single pod, antigen testing will be offered to the full class.

This new programme will commence on or before 29 November.

We thank you in advance for your co-operation with this new programme.