**COVID Response plan –**

**Updated January 2022 in line with Department of Education and HSE Guidelines**

**Accessing the school in the morning**

* The school gates will be open from 8.40-8.50am. During this time, all boys can enter the school grounds and line up behind their class’s assigned cone, while socially distanced from other classes.
* Ms. Greally (Acting Principal), Ms. Gorham (Acting Deputy) and Mr. Daly (AP1) will open the gates and ensure that boys enter the school grounds in an orderly fashion.
* Junior and Senior Infants will enter from the Office gate, while classes 1st-6th Class will enter via the Manor Road Gate. All SNAs will be present on yard from 8.40 am and will accompany their assigned children to their line and wait with them until 8.50am when they can enter the school grounds. Three teachers are assigned to supervise the yard from 8.40-8.50am every week to ensure classes are socially distanced.

**Going Home Time**

* Junior and Senior Infants will go home at 1.30pm. Only one class will exit the gate at a time. All parents are asked to wear a mask while waiting at the gate for their child to exit.
* 1st -6th Class will go home at 2.30pm. 1st – 4th Class boys will exit via the Manor Road Park gate and 5th and 6th Class boys will exit via the Office Gate.

**Staggered Break-times**

* There will be staggered breaks to ensure no mixing of class bubbles.
* Classes will remain in their class bubbles and will remain inside their yard boundaries outlined by yard lines.
* 10.10-10.30 & 12-12.20 Junior Infants, 3rd/4th Split Class and 4th Class (Junior and Middle Yard)
* 10.10-10.30 & 12-12.20 5th and 6th Classes (Senior Yard)
* 10.35-10.55 & 12.25-12.45 Senior Infants and 1st Classes (Junior and Middle Yard)
* 10.35-10.55 & 12.25-12.45 2nd Classes and 3rd Class

**Classroom Layouts**

* Classrooms to be laid out in pods. Pods to be changed every half-term.
* Classrooms to remain clean and clear of clutter

**PPE Required**

* Masks and other PPEare available for all staff.
* Boys from 3rd-6th Class are encouraged to wear masks in class as per government guidelines.

**Hand Hygiene**

* Boys to be reminded of good hand hygiene.
* Sanitization stations are available at all entry/exits to all main outside doors as well as all classroom entry points.
* Boys to be encouraged to sanitize on entry and exit to classrooms.
* Boys to be encouraged to wash hands/sanitize before eating their lunch.

**Cleaning**

* The school have hired contract cleaners – AFM who come to the school after school hours. They are responsible for cleaning toilets, floors, stairs, communal areas and touch points/surface areas throughout the school.
* Class Teachers are responsible for cleaning tables/chairs daily. Cleaning equipment will be provided.
* A deep clean is undertaken during all school closures e.g. Midterm Breaks prioritising areas of greatest need.

**Moving around the School**

* St Lorcan’s BNS has no corridors.
* When a class are leaving their classroom, teacher to check to ensure the coast is clear as to not mix with another class bubble.
* Boys withdrawn for Learning Support must all be withdrawn from their own class bubble.

**Ventilation**

* There are no corridors in the school as access is by outside doors only.
* All classrooms have windows on both sides of the building. Teachers to open windows slightly and keep an eye on the CO2 monitor. Teachers to also take their class out for a movement break if CO2 levels remain high.
* The PE hall is unavailable for PE lessons. All PE lessons to take place outside on the Senior Yard.

**Lead Worker Representatives**

* The Lead Worker Representatives are Ms. Aileen McCabe and Ms. Eimear Hendrick.
* The LWR's will feed back to the Principal re staff concerns regarding Covid-19 measures in the school.
* The LWR’s will meet with the Principal regularly to discuss the Covid-19 Response Plan in the school.

**The Staffroom**

* In order to socially distance, the PE hall is used as the staffroom.
* Chairs are socially distanced and all staff to wipe down their table after use.

**A Suspected Case of Covid-19**

* Parents are urged to not send their son to school if he is displaying symptoms of Covid-19.
* If a boy presents with Covid-19 symptoms while at school, he will be escorted to the Isolation room by an adult and there will be a phone call home for a parent to collect the child and follow current HSE advice. Information can be found here <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/preventing-the-spread/child-returning-to-school-or-childcare/>
* If a boy tests positive for Covid-19 and the school is notified, the Principal will notify the parents of the boys in the given pod, as well as the whole class to inform them that there is a case in the class. The pod will be given information to order antigen tests for their son.
* Staff members are encouraged to stay at home if displaying symptoms of Covid-19 and follow HSE guidelines.
* If a staff member tests positive for Covid -19, current HSE guidelines will be followed. Information can be found here <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/testing/positive-result/>