



Return to School Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Does my child have to wear a face mask to school?

No, primary school children are not required to wear masks at school.

2. There is a congregation of parents/pupils at the school gate at drop off/pick up times. What should I do?

We are aware at these times there may be a small congregation of people at the gate maintaining social distance. If you feel that you may put your safety and social distancing in jeopardy by congregating at the school gate, we ask that you wait in your car or stand at a safe distance from the school gate until the congregation has diminished.

3. What is the arrangements for 'pods/bubbles' at Mary Queen of Angels 1?

Your child's class will be their 'pod/bubble' i.e. there will be no further segregation within class groups. They will only interact with children in their own class both in class and on yard. Nonetheless, social distancing and hygiene etiquette will still continue within the class 'pod/bubble.'

4. Will my child be mixing with other children from other classes on yard?

No, we have maximised the outdoor space to ensure each class has a designated area to play in at a safe distance from other classes. With staggered yard times, there will only be 4 classes on yard at the one time.

5. Will my child wear his school uniform to school?

Yes, we encourage our pupils to wear their uniform/PE uniform to school.

6. Will my child bring a school bag to school?

Yes, your child can still bring a school bag to school with only essential materials inside. We ask that toys etc are not brought from home.

7. My child does not avail of the school lunches, can he bring his own lunch?

Yes, your child can bring his own lunch to school. We advise that the container used is sanitised each day. School lunches will resume as normal.

8. My child is young and nervous about returning to school, can I walk him to his class?

We are aware that some children will be anxious about returning to school and may find it difficult saying goodbye in the morning. However, in order to comply with Public Health Guidelines, parents are not permitted beyond the school gate. Every effort will be made by school staff to ensure your child is happy to enter school by themselves. Details on your child's entrance route to their classroom is available here <https://tinyurl.com/y54gxbsg>.

9. I need to speak with my child's teacher. Can I go to their classroom before/during/after school?

We appreciate that you may have to contact your child's teacher about many things in the coming weeks and months. We ask that you make initial contact by phone or email. You can call the school or Nessa (HSC Teacher). Emails can be directed to mqaone@outlook.com or directly to your child's teacher:

Ms Nolan - hnolanmqa1@gmail.com - Junior Infants

Mr Mc Donald - jmcdonaldmqa1@gmail.com - Senior Infants

Ms Falconer - lfalconermqa1@gmail.com - First Class

Ms O Connor - aoconnormqa1@gmail.com - Second Class

Ms Devlin - edevlinmqa1@gmail.com - Third Class

Ms Gallagher - hgallaghermqa1@gmail.com - Fourth Class

Ms Dunne - rdunnemqa1@gmail.com - Fifth Class

Ms Keane - akeanemqa1@gmail.com - Sixth Class

10. I need to collect my child early from school. What should I do?

In the event that you need to collect your child early, you should make contact with the school first. By doing this, we can ensure your child is accompanied by a member of staff to the front door and will be ready to meet you at the front gate.

11. How do I pay my child's book money?

When paying book money, we ask that you put the money in an envelope and put it in your child's school bag.

12. Do I have to send my child back to school, even if I feel it is not safe?

We are aware that there are concerns about the return to school. However attendance will still remain compulsory unless a health risk is present. Our HSCL Teacher will continue to monitor attendance and follow up on any absences from school.

13. I have heard other schools are 'dropping' school uniforms. Is this the case at Mary Queen of Angels 1?

Consulting with Public Health and the Department of Education on the return to school, there is nothing to state that uniforms should be washed/changed daily.

This document will be updated as more questions come in. Thank you for your concerns thus far.

Here is a Return to School video aimed at children from the Government - https://youtu.be/92MLB_Onq8Q