

Face Coverings in School for Pupils from 3rd to 6th class

December 1st, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You will be aware by now of the NPHET/Government requirement for face coverings in school for pupils from 3rd to 6th class inclusive. It is clear that Covid-19 has reached extremely dangerous levels in the 5-12 age group who are unvaccinated. It is also a reflection of the Covid surge in the wider community and this increase has been clear to us here in St. Conaire's NS in recent weeks.

Covid-19 is a respiratory disease that is spread through the travel of tiny droplets from person to person. Face coverings are proven to be an effective barrier to this transmission.

All pupils in the 3rd to 6th classes are required to wear a face covering daily until further notice. This will be reviewed in mid-February 2022 by NPHET.

Already today we notice an increase in the number of pupils wearing face coverings. This requirement for face coverings is in **everyone's interest**: face coverings protect the wearer and they also protect their friends, family and relatives who may be vulnerable.

This is not an easy thing for any child to do but our society is facing a massive challenge from this rampant and opportunistic disease. If schools are to remain open we will all have to do everything possible to protect ourselves and each other. Face coverings are part of that protection.

We thank the children, the staff and parents for all co-operation and support since March 2020. We earnestly ask for your continue co-operation so that your child, their classmates, school staff and your families keep safe. Let's all mind each other, protect each other and keep school open.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Walsh, Principal

An illustrated guide on how to use face coverings can be found at this link:

[Using face coverings from children in 3rd to 6th class](#)

Full details of the face covering requirement can be found at the following links:

[Guidelines of Face Coverings in Primary Schools \(Department of Education\)](#)

[Letter from the Chief Medical Officer to Parents](#)