

C.B.S. PRIMARY



Procedures for Dealing with a Suspected Case of COVID-19 August 2020

Full Review 5th AUGUST 2020



Christian Brothers Primary School,
BRIGOWN, MITCHELSTOWN, CO. CORK, P67 FY81.

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Our School Motto: Have Courage & Be Kind



CBS Primary Procedures for Dealing with a Suspected Case of COVID-19

Staff or pupils of CBS Primary Mitchelstown should not attend school if displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.

The following outlines how our school will deal with a suspected case that may arise in a school setting.

- ✦ Two designated isolation areas have been identified within the school building. Our staff will all be made aware of these.

If a staff member/pupil displays symptoms of COVID-19 while at school the following are the procedures to be implemented:

- ✦ If the person with the suspected case is a pupil, the parents/guardians should be contacted immediately.
- ✦ The person will be isolated and a procedure followed to accompany the individual to the designated isolation area via the isolation route (keeping to open air areas as much as is practical), keeping at least 2m away from the symptomatic person and also making sure that others maintain a distance of at least 2m from the symptomatic person at all times;
- ✦ Both isolation areas are equipped with the full PPE necessary for the safety of the suspected case and the accompanying staff member.
- ✦ The virus is spread by droplets and is not airborne so physical separation is enough to reduce the risk of spread to others even if they are in the same room;
- ✦ Efforts will be made to keep ventilation in these rooms to a maximum while they are being used as isolation areas.
- ✦ If it is not possible to maintain a distance of 2m a staff member caring for a pupil will wear a face covering or mask. Gloves will not be used as the virus does not pass through skin;
- ✦ A mask will be provided for the person presenting with symptoms. He/she should wear the mask if in a common area with other people or while exiting the premises;

- ✚ We will assess whether the individual who is displaying symptoms can immediately be directed to go home/be brought home by parents who will call their doctor and continue self-isolation at home;
- ✚ We will facilitate the person presenting with symptoms remaining in isolation if they cannot immediately go home and facilitate them calling their doctor. The individual should avoid touching people, surfaces and objects. Advice will be given to the person presenting with symptoms to cover their mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided when they cough or sneeze and put the tissue in the waste bag provided;
- ✚ If the person is well enough to go home, we will arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible and advise them to inform their general practitioner by phone of their symptoms. Public transport of any kind should not be used;
- ✚ If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, we will contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick person is a Covid-19 suspect;
- ✚ We will carry out an assessment of the incident which will form part of determining follow-up actions and recovery;
- ✚ We will arrange for appropriate cleaning of the isolation area and work areas involved.
- ✚ The HSE will inform any staff/parents who have come into close contact with a diagnosed case via the contact tracing process. The HSE will contact all relevant persons where a diagnosis of COVID-19 is made. The instructions of the HSE should be followed and staff and pupil confidentiality is essential at all times.

Policy reviewed and ratified by B.O.M. on – 24 AUG 2020

Proposed: VINOD BERNARD

Seconded MERVYN HODGINS

Signed: Martin Kelly
Martin Kelly, Chairperson B.O.M.

Date – 24 AUG 2020

Signed: Mary O'Callaghan
Mary O'Callaghan, Principal

Date of next Review: As Required.

