

St. Thomas' Senior National School Jobstown, Tallaght, Dublin 24

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Reopening School

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I hope you and your families are keeping well.

As you know, school has been closed since 12th March due to COVID-19. We are hoping to re-open the school safely, in line with current guidance and recommendations on the week beginning 31st August.

Re-opening the school safely needs the co-operation of all of us involved in the school – Board of Management, staff, parents and pupils in order to prevent the spread of the virus and allow the Teaching and Learning to take place with as little disruption as possible.

We have put the Department of Education and Skill's COVID-19 Response Plan for the safe and sustainable reopening of Primary and Special Schools on the school website <u>www.stthomas.ie</u>.

The Response Plan gives details of

- Physical preparation, signage, hand sanitiser stations,
- Advice, procedures and training for the safe return to working in the school for all school staff and pupils
- General and specific advice on how all pupils, staff, parents and visitors will prevent the spread of the virus

We will publish our COVID-19 Policy Statement on the school website shortly. We will keep you informed about the plans for returning to school and will provide you with the necessary information which will help you to support the safe re-opening of school.

We are really looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and will be doing all that we can to ensure that the return to school is a safe and enjoyable experience for them. We will be in touch with you again with more up to date information before school re-opens.

It is vitally important that we have a working mobile number for you as we will keep in touch with you via the mobile phone about the return to school. If you have changed your number please contact Mairead – school secretary on 083 023 7268. We will be in touch again in the next few weeks. Up to date information will also be made available on the school website.

Stay safe and well and kind regards,

Chairperson BOM

Principal

The following websites provide more information on COVID-19 and on the government advice and recommendations about the re-opening of schools: -

- <u>https://www.education.ie/en/covid-19/</u>
- <u>https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/</u>
- <u>https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/a128d-back-to-school/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/backtoschool/</u>