



## **RE: School Drop off, Collection and Breaks; Additional School Closure**

Dear Parent / Guardian, Staff Member and pupils,

On behalf of all the staff and board of management, I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation during school drop off and collections time. We now have guidance from the Department of Education advising that staggered arrivals, breaks and drop-offs are no longer necessary. This means we will be returning to the traditional arrivals and dispersal times, which are detailed below. I would also like to sincerely thank all the staff for their additional supervision over the past two years to enable the safe arrival and dispersal of pupils to and from school.

The changes below will come into effect from Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### **School Drop-off**

- The school day starts as normal at 9.20am with all pupils in their classes ready to start the day at this time.
- To facilitate a calm and orderly drop off, all pupils arriving before 9.20 will be supervised **from 9.05am**. This supervision will continue to occur inside the school building for the time being until the weather improves. Pupils will continue to enter the school through the same doorway in the morning (Door D).
- **It is very important to be aware that there is no supervision prior to 9.05 am. Therefore, the Board of Management does not assume any responsibility for pupils on campus before this time. Please ensure your child is not arriving at school prior to this time, whether by car or by bus. It is advisable to check with the bus company what time your daughter is arriving at school and advise them of these times.**

### **Break Times**

- The school will move back to the traditional break times on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> March. These are as follows: Small Break 11:00 – 11:10 and Lunch 1:00 – 1:30.

### **Collection/Dispersal**

- **At 2pm** Each infant class will have two lines, those who are collected by parents and those who get the bus. Pupils will continue to be escorted to the relevant collection area.
- **At 3pm** All other classes will be escorted from their classes to bus and parent collection points.



### **Face Coverings/Mask Wearing**

Staff and students can continue to wear a face covering/mask if they wish to do so.

### **Staying at home if you have Symptoms**

The requirement to stay at home if you have symptoms remains – for students and staff alike. One of the key messages to manage the risks of COVID-19 is to do everything practical to avoid the introduction of COVID-19 into the school.

### **Additional School Closure**

Following the government announcement of the additional bank holiday on March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Education has advised schools that they may adjust the school calendar to account for the new 182 school day year. A proposal to move one of our discretionary days from March 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022 was approved by both Duleek GNS and BNS boards of management. The school will now be closed on Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> (June Bank holiday).

Sincerely,

Pádraig McGovern,

Principal,

Duleek GNS

