



Gaelscoil Aodha Rua,
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Dún Geanainn,
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16 Márta 2020

A Thuismitheoir dhil,

SCHOOL WILL NOW CLOSE ON THURS 19TH & FRI 20TH MARCH

I hope that this letter finds you, your children and your wider family circle well and in good health. This is a worrying time for everyone in our community, particularly for anyone who has an under-lying health condition or elderly relatives.

I have been in regular contact with our Board of Governors and with the committee of the Naíscóil in recent days. We have been paying close attention to the advice of the EA, Dept. of Education and Public Health Authority, in both the North and South of the country.

In light of the conflicting guidance and the level of indecision at government level regarding school closures, we have decided that as guardians of the safety, welfare and well-being of our pupils, staff, their collective families and extended communities, we need to take precautionary steps to minimise the spread of Coronavirus in our school and beyond our gates.

Both the **Gaelscoil & Naíscóil** had originally planned to close from **Mon 16th – Wed 18th March** for the St Patrick's Day holidays.

We have now also decided that the **Gaelscoil & Naíscóil** will remain **closed** on **Thursday 19th & Friday 20th March**, as a precautionary measure, to allow us as a board of management to properly risk assess this situation and to plan for whatever decisions may be made by the authorities in the coming days. The health, well-being and safety of your children, your families, our school staff and our wider local community were paramount in arriving at this decision.

We will swap two of our previously agreed holidays in May to cover these dates and we will be in contact with you again with an update, via the same system of communication, before the end of this school week.

During this period of school closure, please adhere to the theory behind '**social distancing**' in our communities and minimise all un-necessary contact with people beyond your family home. This will have implications for some of our older pupils, in particular, who should be advised to 'stay home' and not to gather with their peers in public places.

GUIDANCE:

- If you, your child or anyone in your immediate family circle show signs of having flu-like symptoms and have been advised by a doctor to self-isolate, or if you have a confirmed case of Covid 19 in your family, please notify me via the school e mail address above.
- Please also notify me if you / your child have been in contact with anyone who has recently travelled home from abroad, as we may need to seek advice on this before your child can return to school.
- If any parent wishes to speak to me in the next few days to advise me of an urgent issue pertaining to their own family, please send an e-mail (quoting your contact telephone number) to the school account (gaelscoiladharua@yahoo.ie) and I will endeavour to contact you as soon as possible.

Take care of each other and please be re-assured that I, our staff and the Board of Governors are taking our duty of care for all in the community of Gaelscoil Aodha Rua very seriously.

Is mise le meas,
Móna Uí Dhochartaigh (Príomhoide)

