**Summary of Procedures when Dealing with a Confirmed Case of Covid-19 in O’Brennan N.S.**

Unfortunately it is widely accepted amongst public health officials that there is an inevitability that confirmed Covid-19 cases will happen in schools as we move through the school year. It is important to note that everybody’s health status and the outcome of an individual’s test results are confidential. O’Brennan NS will adhere to this principle.

* The identity of the staff member or pupil will not be disclosed to other children, parents or staff members should they test positive for Covid-19.
* The pupil or staff member will be informed at the test centre by the public health team that they will have to share the outcome of the test with a senior person in our school. That senior person will be the Principal and/or Deputy Principal.
* In the case of a staff member they will be contacted by the contact tracing team from the Department of Health. This is to help establish contacts and the information given will inform the public health action.
* In the case of a pupil, their parents will be contacted by the contact tracing team from the Department of Health. This is to help establish contacts and the information given will inform the public health action.
* The case is then referred to the local public health team.
* They will then liaise with the school. The school is obliged to engage and co-operate fully with the local public health team.
* The local public health team carry out their own risk assessment. They identify and notify close contacts of the positive case within the school. This includes pupils and staff members.
* Close contacts identified in the school will have to go home without delay if they are in school at the time.
* Because they have been identified as close contacts they will have to restrict their movement for 14 days. That means that they cannot come into school during that period of time.
* The local public health team will arrange an initial test for all close contacts. This will be followed up with a second test before the scheduled return to school.
* The public health authorities will decide if the school should partially or fully close. The school will disseminate this information to relevant parents and staff.
* The public health authorities will decide when the affected class(es) should return or when the school should fully re-open. The school will disseminate this information to the relevant parents and staff.
* O’Brennan NS will fully co-operate with the public health authorities at all times should the need arise.
* O’Brennan NS will follow public health advice and procedures at all times should the need arise.