



## Scoil Náisiúnta Bhantiarna Lourdes

*“Mol an óige ‘is tiocfaidh sí”*

Hospital Hill, Bunclody, Enniscorthy,  
Co. Wexford Y21 R820

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22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There has been some anxiety about security in the local schools in recent days and I wish to address these concerns. The school locks the gate on Church Road at 9.30am daily and only reopens it again after the end of lunch break at 1.00pm so that parents can collect infants at 1.30pm. The front gates are locked before the start of both breaks and unlocked at the end of the breaks. Access to the school building is only through the main entrance at the secretary's office.

Anyone who enters the school grounds must be on school related business and should anyone else enter the grounds they are reported to the Gardaí. CCTV evidence is given to the Gardaí when others trespass on school property. For instance one person was reported to the Gardaí last week as he came through the school grounds at 8.12am one morning and returned at 8.23am. He did not stop to speak to anyone but nonetheless was not on school business and should not have been in the school grounds. He is currently being prosecuted for trespass.

We do not want our school to be in any way unwelcoming to parents but we feel it necessary in current times to be that little bit extra vigilant about security and supervision.

We understand that some of our former pupils walk through our school grounds in the mornings on the way to secondary school and we accept this as there are no security concerns over this.

We ask that you have patience if you come to the school and find the front gates locked. You will be seen by the secretary within a few minutes as there is **CCTV** surveillance on the front gates at all times.

Infants must be handed over to the teacher in the mornings and should not be allowed to walk to school by themselves. Older children who are allowed to walk by themselves should be told to come to school and return home directly and not to delay or go elsewhere.

There have been no incidences of child safety concern in the school for many years but we all still need to be aware of possible dangers and assume that anything can happen if we are not always vigilant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Seamus Mac Roibeaird". The signature is written in a cursive style.

James Roberts, Principal