



🇮🇪 & 🇬🇧 COVID 🧵 🧵 🧵

@Threadslrish

🧵 🧵 🧵 on COVID

twitter.com/Threadslrish/status/1371414625959485441

Apr. 19, 2021 · 7 min read

T Read on Threader

1. “What Is Happening Behind The Scenes In Irish Secondary Schools” (Part 1)

I’m going to be very honest. This was a very difficult 🧵 to write once you see what is going on.

When you have finished this 🧵 please do return to this very 1st tweet to retweet. Thanks

New 🧵 1/36



2. Before I dive in I especially want to thank @Irishsecondary for going above and beyond the call of duty in sending me so much material.

I have decided to split this 📧 into 2 parts. The 2nd one will be completed and sent out tomorrow.

3. The first will deal with what I personally know is happening due to feedback I have received from my own children as well as what @irishsecondary has told me.

Part 2 of the 📧 will deal with information that has been sent to Irish Secondary from other parents and children.

4. Back in Aug 2020 I received an email from the school saying "The Board of Management engaged a health & safety consultant to carry out a site visit and building survey in order to do a comprehensive risk assessment.

5. A Covid-19 Risk Assessment has been prepared to support the Covid-19 Response plan and a Health and Safety Statement has been prepared to take into account the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic"

6. This obviously cost a substantial sum of money. Were these surveys carried out in all schools ?

Where did the magic money tree come from ?

7. In this same letter the school refers to a resumption of normality and "a new normal"

This was back in August. I wonder if this letter was crafted by the health authorities before sending it on to the school to indoctrinate in them that things are going to be different.

While we look forward to a resumption of "normality" in terms of school life, it will be a new normal. However, with a positive attitude, adherence to the guidelines and the cooperation of all we will have a successful and enjoyable year. The following is a summary of the steps which we have taken since last June to prepare for the reopening of [REDACTED]

8. Then in Sep 2020 I sent an email & letter to the school principal about the wearing of face masks. Here is the email I wrote as well as the reply I received.

You can see that the policy of face coverings is being driven by the Govt, NPHEA and by extension the HSE.

I am writing to you as a very concerned parent regarding the policy on face coverings now in operation at [REDACTED] as per the latest communication issued by the Irish Government and via the emails we've received from the school.

I want to let you know that I am very concerned about the potential damage to the children and will potentially cause them serious long term psychological harm as well as possibly damage their health physically.

Many doctors and nurses have spoken out about this stating that by wearing a face mask (or covering depending on the type) can cause:

- **Hypoxia** - a reduced level of oxygen in the blood;
- **Hypercapnia** - increased level of carbon dioxide in the blood (usually associated with hyperventilation)
- **Bacterial infection** - from inhaling bacteria that has already been expelled from breathing out.

Combined, these issues can lead to a pH imbalance that can contribute to a compromised immune system thus causing illness and infection.

In addition to that it can cause stress, anxiety leading to higher levels of cortisol which can further damage the immune system.

Even the WHO stated "If you do not have any respiratory symptoms, such as fever, cough, or runny nose, you do not need to wear a medical mask. When used alone, masks can give you a false feeling of protection and can even be a source of infection when not used correctly"

Michael McNamara TD even wrote just last week that a report from HIQA found "an urgent need for more research, particularly high quality studies that provide direct evidence on the use of face masks by healthy people in the community"

Also the government's own independent paid advisor Professor Carl Heneghan, a clinical epidemiologist with expertise in evidence-based medicine who appeared at a special meeting of the Oireachtas on 13/08/20 advised against

the use of face coverings.

The video can be watched at this link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zxvhL1zA18>

To date there is no robust empirical evidence of asymptomatic spread or no robust empirical evidence that children are carriers or infectors of COVID-19. A recent study also showed that there is also no proof of any children passing on COVID to teachers anywhere in the world.

Given this, why then would the school be implementing a measure that can potentially cause serious harm to the children when the risks of catching something akin to the flu is so small?

Children need to interact with each other, they need to see the facial expressions of the adults who are supposed to be teaching them, and they also need to see the facial expressions of each other when playing and learning. It is fundamentally important to their healthy development and psychology.

██████████ was deeply distressed when she came home last week after her first day back in school. She cried non-stop for 20 minutes as she explained to me the draconian rules and regulations that have had to be implemented within the school at the behest of the government.

This policy that has been imposed by the government and NPHET could be seriously detrimental to the children's development, which is so important for them now, and for the rest of their lives.

I would really appreciate a copy of the Risk Assessment that has been carried out by the school and / or the Government with regard to this policy? I presume this has been done in accordance with the relevant Health and Safety authorities.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours sincerely

████████████████████

PS. I have also sent a physical copy in the post.

Thank you for your email and information regarding the negative impact of wearing face coverings/masks. As a school, we are mandated to adopt the measures issued by NPHE and the Department of Education. The Minister for Education reiterated last week that all students in secondary schools are obliged to wear a face-covering or else they cannot attend school.

Any concerns that you have regarding these guidelines should be directed to the Department of Education and Skills and/or NPHE.

Kind regards,

9. So what is happening in the schools themselves. For that info I've turned to what a teacher at the coalface sent on to me. As much as possible I've left it unedited.

10. I asked the question

"I was wondering whether you had any info about the schools and their COVID funding which you may be willing to share. What they may and may not have received from govt etc"

Here is the response

11. Hi. As a teacher at the coalface, I wouldn't necessarily be privy to such information. What I can say with certainty is the following. Schools were cash-strapped for years and spending was cautious and frugal at the best of times. Since Covid-19, schools are awash with money.

12. There is money for everything and more, if you want it. Special laptops were bought for anybody who wanted them over lockdown (even if you had your own devices). I was aghast at the laissez-faire attitude until I realised what was going on.

13. Money was thrown at schools to cover them in posters, yellow arrows, spots, signs,... You name it! Teachers went back in March to only 'teach'. Supervision /substitution was paid extra to the young ones.

14. It was always part of our job. For orals, there was money to do practice orals!!! (outside of school time) and then, the real orals were also paid. This is unprecedented. Schools seem to be awash with money.

15. All schools are the same. This has cost an absolute fortune. Brand new devices were purchased for anyone who needed one for lockdown - regardless of whether you had one or not. Sickening.
16. Schools seem to be churning out a very rehearsed narrative which is coming from the Dept. of Education and Science and, obviously, the HSE. Money seems to be no problem. They are throwing massive funding into the propaganda war.
17. If it has to do with progressing the Covid-19 scaremongering, the money is available. There are expensive posters, announcements everywhere you turn!
18. You are constantly reminded that we are in the middle of a very dangerous pandemic. The kids are invariably bombarded with images and messages of fear, anxiety and hysteria.
19. Teacher friends of mine have told me of COVID announcements being made over tannoys. It just stokes the fear. They don't know if the schools have been instructed to do this or not or if they are doing it off their own back.
20. It sounds like something out of North Korea. Announcements are made about the 15-minute eating window being up and masks having to be put back on. Indoors and outdoors. That's 15 minutes (x2) in 7 hours to breathe without a mask = every secondary school in the state.
21. Compliance is huge in schools. There is very little objection. Anyone who dissents is quickly dealt with. Suspensions are common for dissenters. It reminds all of the need to comply.
22. Social-distancing during break is a massive issue. Year groups are assigned 'zones' and cannot be found in another zone for any reason. Teachers are assigned zones to supervise and apply the protocols rigorously. It's terrible to witness.
23. Teachers bark at students to comply, separate, mask up, etc. We are schooled in how to rigorously apply the protocols and report those who are not compliant.
24. In class, all doors and windows are left open. It's freezing! The students are losing interest big time. The 'light in their eyes' is gone. They are lethargic, uninterested and unable to interact with their peers and teachers like they used to.
25. No class materials can be shared. No handouts can be distributed. Copies can't be corrected. They have to be quarantined for 3 days, corrected, quarantined another 3 days and given back. It's a complete circus. Learning is badly affected.

26. So this is pretty much happening in every Irish school across the country with minor variations to the playbook.

But what do other teachers have to say. Again I have left as much as possible unedited.

Some of these stories are quite distressing.

27. Teacher - We have an ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) unit in the school, which I supervise on a regular basis. Some of the students don't wear masks and have obvious issues with it. Some of them are very affectionate as well, sensory issues.


28. They like to hold your hand and hold on to you which I have never refused but some teachers have given off to me for allowing this. I still don't push them away as I realise that they do not understand what is happening to the same extent as the other students.

29. They were confined in the classroom during lunch time until they returned after Christmas. Longing to be outside with the other students. Myself and one of the SNAs took them out, on our own accord, to the yard one lunch time and they flourished.

30. They begged to return out every lunch after. There was some initial resistance but ultimately the person in charge allowed it and took credit for this movement. They are the ones that are suffering the most.

31. In saying that the SNAs are great with them and are following protocols so I understand. Those who work closely with them cannot maintain distance but there is discussion and judgement from other staff members regarding the kids...

32. ...“being treated differently” in relation to covid regulations. Which makes me physically ill. Those who criticise the situation have nothing to do with the unit and don't even communicate with the kids.

33. Thanks for taking the time to read this  As you can see the children in schools are quite literally under attack. It should now be abundantly clear that the Govt, NPHET, HSE etc are driving schools policy.

34. The schools however are complicit by not standing up for their pupils against these draconian, Orwellian measures. An excuse of “We were only following orders” will never stand up.

35. I'm afraid Part 2 which I will complete tomorrow doesn't get any better. Some of the stories being sent in by parents are quite simply dreadful. It's critical that people know what is going on in schools.

36. Please go back to the very 1st tweet and retweet. I would really appreciate it. We need as many people as possible to know what is going on behind the scenes and the best way to help out is by retweeting the 1st tweet. Many thanks.

Part 2 in case you missed it 🙏



 &  COVID 
@Threadslrish 

1. "What Is Happening Behind The Scenes In Irish Secondary Schools" (Part 2)

In Part 1, I looked at what is going on in schools from a teacher's perspective and how schools are implementing Covid rules and regulations.

New  1/39



10:00 AM · Apr 20, 2021 

 195  See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter