



## Ratoath College

# Contingency Plan for Prolonged Unforeseen School Closures

*(In accordance with Circular 0018/2026)*

### 1. Purpose

This plan outlines the arrangements to be implemented in the event of prolonged unforeseen school closures (e.g. severe weather, emergency situations) to ensure that lost tuition time is recovered and the curriculum is completed, in line with Department requirements.

### 2. Activation of Plan

In the event of closure:

- The principal, in consultation with the Board of Management, will:
- Confirm duration of closure
- Initiate contingency arrangements

### 3. Assessment of Impact

- Quantify the number of lost school days
- Consult with staff to:
- Identify curriculum gaps
- Assess impact on year groups and examination classes

### 4. Core Contingency Measures

The following measures will be implemented, as appropriate:

#### A. Prioritisation of Teaching & Learning

- Prioritise tuition time over non-essential activities
- Focus on completion of core curriculum across all subjects

#### B. Reduction of Non-Core Activities

- Postpone or reduce:
  - School tours and trips
  - External events and activities
  - Non-essential programmes

#### C. Adjustment of Assessment Arrangements

- Streamline:
  - In-house assessments
  - Examination schedules (where feasible)

#### D. Use of Calendar Flexibility

- Review school calendar to:

*Mol an Óige agus Tiocfaidh sí*



- Convert discretionary closure days into teaching days
- Provide additional tuition time where required

### **5. Additional Measures (if required)**

Where necessary, and subject to Board approval:

- Adjust school calendar (e.g. limited reduction of holiday periods)
- Implement further measures to ensure completion of required 166 tuition days

### **6. Communication**

- All changes will be:
- Communicated promptly to staff, parents, and students
- Published on the school website

### **7. Review**

- This plan will be:
- Approved by the Board of Management
- Reviewed annually or following any significant closure event

**This plan reflects the requirement under Circular 0018/2026 for schools to have a documented approach to managing prolonged closures and recovering lost tuition time.**