



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Community Operations - Primary Care

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital,
Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8.

www.hse.ie
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T: 01 6352209/2682
E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

17th February 2022

Deputy Denis Naughten,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 5528/22 - To ask the Minister for Health further to a Topical Issue debate of 27 January 2022, if he will outline the planned long-Covid clinics for children; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Denis Naughten

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 5528/22), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

COVID-19 is a new disease so information on it, its features, incidence and course are still emerging. My Department, and the HSE, continue to review new evidence, research and data as it emerges, internationally and nationally, to ensure care is in place for all adults and children who need it.

As of midnight 8th Feb, 1,745 children with a confirmed case of COVID19 have been recorded on the national Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting system as having been hospitalised since the start of the pandemic. However, it would not be accurate to say definitively that this is the number of children hospitalised due to COVID-19 – some may have been admitted to hospital for conditions other than COVID-19.

Fortunately, most children with COVID-19 infection have asymptomatic or mild disease. The incidence of severe disease and hospitalisation of children with COVID-19 is low. The international evidence to date is that the incidence of Long COVID in children is rare and mainly of short duration.

The HSE has developed an interim model of care for Long Covid and this includes paediatrics. Post-Acute and Long Covid services are being established across the country. The HSE will continue to monitor cases of COVID-19 across the country to assess and plan for associated needs.

People who have had COVID-19 and are in need of further care are being followed up by their GP or in hospital settings as clinically appropriate. Adults and children with concerns regarding Long COVID are advised to consult with their GP in the first instance.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.



Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ Dunford', is written over a horizontal line.

TJ Dunford
Head of Operations - Primary Care
Community Operations