

Covid-19 - INTO MEDIA COVERAGE

What does lockdown mean for our schools - The Pat Kenny Show Newstalk Radio

21 Oct 2020

...To discuss we heard from John Boyle, The Irish National Teachers' Organisation General Secretary and Tiernan O'Neill, Principal of Moyross National School... [listen here](#)...(move to 00:00:32 in the programme)

John Boyle, Ardrúnaí Cumann Múinteoirí Éireann, INTO – Admhaidin RTÉ Radió Na Gaeltachta

20 Oct 2020

Imní ar Chumann Múinteoirí Éireann an INTO faoi scoileanna a bheith oscailte le linn Leibhéal 5 de shrianta COVID19. Agus tá an ceardchumann ag iarraidh go bhfoilseofaí mioneolas faoi líon na gcásanna i scoileanna na tíre... [Éist anois](#)...

The Tonight Show – Virgin Media

20 Oct 2020

INTO General Secretary John Boyle speaks about the INTO's key demands to keep schools open following today's meeting with NPHET representatives... [listen here](#)...(move to 36:56 in programme)

Teachers demand extra protections for schools after meeting with NPHET - RTE Drivetime

20 Oct 2020

Teacher unions have met with NPHET to discuss their concerns around schools remaining open under level 5... Government has failed to resource the HSE... Interview with John Boyle, General Secretary INTO... [listen here](#)...(move to 0:03:12 in the programme)

Will The Schools Return After Mid-Term Break? - The Last Word with Matt Cooper - Today FM

20 Oct 2020

...But will schools be in a position to return safely after the mid-term break? We spoke to INTO General Secretary John Boyle and Dr Tomás Ryan, Associate Professor in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology at TCD... [listen here](#)...

Keeping the schools open - RTE News: Six One

20 Oct 2020

Teacher unions have met with NPHET to discuss their concerns around schools remaining open under level 5... Interview with John Boyle, General Secretary INTO... [watch here](#)...(Move to 15:34 in programme)

Unions issue warning about schools reopening after mid-term - Irish Examiner

20 Oct 2020

... INTO general secretary John Boyle said: "The successful reopening of schools on November 2 will depend on the preventative and protective measures that are put in place by the Government in the interim."... [read more here](#)...

HSE to enhance its response to schools with Covid cases - Foley - RTE.ie

20 Oct 2020

The Minister for Education has confirmed the increased resourcing of dedicated school teams in each Health Service Executive area to assist schools where a Covid-19 case is identified... The Irish National Teachers' Organisation said it outlined its key concerns to both department officials and the public health experts and reiterated its demands... [read more here](#)...

RTE News: One O'Clock News - RTE.ie

20 Oct 2020

... We heard John Boyle on This Morning describing the tracing and testing system as shambolic and certainly school principals that I've been speaking to would echo that... [watch here](#)...(Move to 09:58 in the programme)

Schools should not reopen after midterm unless safety improves, say unions - Irish Times

20 Oct 2020

Minister promises new teams to assist schools when Covid-19 cases are identified... Speaking after the meeting, the Irish National Teachers' Organisation general secretary John Boyle said: "The successful reopening of schools on November 2nd will depend on the preventative and protective measures that are put in place by the Government in the interim."... [read more here](#)...

Schools can't reopen 'unless safety measures improve' - Irish Examiner

20 Oct 2020

... John Boyle, INTO general secretary, said: "The Department of Education officials assured us that they will continue to engage with the INTO regularly during schools' mid-term break."... [read more here](#)...

Schools can be 'assured' of safe return after mid-term, Foley says - breakingnews.ie

20 Oct 2020

... 'Shambolic approach'... Earlier on Tuesday, the Irish National Teachers' Organisation said it "cannot be convinced" children will safely return to school after the mid-term break... He said "the shambolic approach of public health to the tracking, to the testing and the surveillance of our sector is going to be sorted out before the first Monday in November" ... [read more here](#)...

Teacher trade union representatives meet with NPHET officials - RTE.ie

20 Oct 2020

Speaking on RTÉ's Morning Ireland earlier today, head of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation John Boyle described the testing and tracing process as "shambolic"... Mr Boyle said NPHET acknowledged at today's meeting that testing and tracing systems were currently overwhelmed.... The INTO has also called for a public awareness campaign to ensure everyone in society works together to allow schools to remain open safely... [read more here](#)...

Schools can be 'absolutely assured' adequate measures in place to stay open - Minister Foley - Irish Independent

20 Oct 2020

Minister for Education Norma Foley has told school communities they can be "absolutely assured" that any public health measures needed to keep schools open and safe will be taken... INTO General Secretary John Boyle had earlier today claimed some schools were left waiting up to two weeks for tracing to be carried out and branded the system "shambolic"... [read more here](#)...

Imní ar mhúinteoirí faoi shábháilteacht scoileanna - RTE.ie Nuacht

20 Oct 2020

Dúirt Ard-Rúnaí Chumann Múinteoirí Éireann John Boyle go bhfuil deis anois ag an Rialtas córas ceart a réiteach don téarma scoile seo chugainn i bhfianaise na srianta breise Covid-19 atá le cur i bhfeidhm ar feadh sé seachtaine ó amárach... [Léigh níos mó anseo](#)...

Teachers union not convinced schools will reopen after midterm break - Breakingnews.ie

20 Oct 2020

The general secretary of the Irish National Teachers Organisation (INTO), John Boyle has said he "cannot be convinced" that schools will reopen after the Halloween midterm break... [read more here...](#)

Schools can be 'assured' of safe return after mid-term, Foley says - Irish Times

20 Oct 2020

Teachers' unions raise concerns about safety of schools and 'shambolic' testing system... Earlier on Tuesday, the Irish National Teachers' Organisation said it "cannot be convinced" children will safely return to school after the mid-term break... [read more here...](#)

Teachers' union representatives meet with NPHET to outline concerns - Extra.ie

20 Oct 2020

Representatives from the teachers' union INTO (Irish National Teachers' Organisation) have met with members of the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET) to outline their concerns and the decision to allow schools to open over the next six weeks... On the same programme, John Boyle of INTO described the Government's test and trace system in schools as being 'shambolic', saying: 'I cannot be convinced by Micheal Martin's comments that the children will be returning after Halloween to a safe school'... [read more here...](#)

Teachers assured of improved COVID response from HSE - buzz.ie

20 Oct 2020

The Irish National Teacher's Organisation met with the National Public Health Emergency Team today to voice their concerns on COVID-19 in schools... [read more here...](#)

Schools can be 'assured' of safe return after mid-term, Foley says - The Nationalist

20 Oct 2020

... 'Shambolic approach'... "Back in March the Government made the right decision to close schools, we worked so hard to reopen schools, but three months on I cannot be convinced by Micheál Martin's comments last night that the children will be returning after Halloween to a safe school and of course it's vital that their education continues, but it's even more vital for their families that they will remain safe," general secretary John Boyle said... [read more here...](#)

'At the moment we can be waiting up to 10 days to hear about a test result' says primary school principal - Irish Independent

20 Oct 2020

A week ago, primary principal Enda McGorman was confident about schools staying open, but his optimism has given way to fears about their ability to continue if testing and tracing is not speeded up... According to Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) general secretary John Boyle, Nphet "admitted that the system had been overwhelmed in the last two weeks but assured us that our queries and concerns will be dealt with in the coming week." He said Department officials also gave an assured us that they would continue to engage with the INTO regularly during schools' midterm break... [read more here...](#)

Schools can be 'assured' of safe return after mid-term, Foley says - Waterford News and Star, Western People, Laois Nationalist Update and Kildare Nationalist

20 Oct 2020

Minister for Education Norma Foley has said schools can be “assured” that all necessary measures will be put in place to ensure a successful return to school after the Halloween break... Earlier on Tuesday, the Irish National Teachers’ Organisation said it “cannot be convinced” children will safely return to school after the mid-term break... [read more here](#)...

Schools and childcare facilities to remain open - Morning Ireland RTE.ie

20 Oct 2020

John Boyle, General Secretary of the Irish National Teachers Organisation and Kieran Christie, General Secretary of the Association of Secondary Teachers, Ireland, share their concerns around schools as Ireland moves to level 5 restrictions.... John Boyle has said that tracking, testing and surveillance of Covid-19 in primary schools has been “shambolic”... [listen here](#)...

Teaching union claims schools may not reopen after mid-term - Irish Examiner

20 Oct 2020

Teaching unions have blasted the Government's approach testing and tracing as "shambolic", claiming time is running out to ensure schools are safe. The general secretary of the Irish National Teachers Organisation (INTO), John Boyle has said he does not expect schools to re-open after the mid-term break under current circumstances, and warned the Government now has eight to nine days to ensure that schools are safe... [read more here](#)...

'It has been shambolic'- Head of teachers' union blasts tracing in schools - Irish Independent

20 Oct 2020

The General Secretary of the Irish National Teachers’ Organisation John Boyle has said that tracking, testing and surveillance of Covid-19 in primary schools has been “shambolic”.... [read more here](#)...

Covid-19: Schools and colleges to remain open during Level 5 restrictions - Irish Times

19 Oct 2020

‘Overwhelming’ evidence schools remain safe settings, says Minister for Education... There is “overwhelming” evidence that schools remain safe settings and they will continue to operate during the Level 5 restrictions, Minister for Education Norma Foley has said... Increasing concern... The Irish National Teachers’ Organisation said it was growing increasingly concerned that the current health precautions for teachers were inadequate.... [read more here](#)...

Teacher unions concerned at schools staying open amid lockdown - Irish Times

19 Oct 2020

Unions raise issues with testing speed and risk to staff and pupils as schools to stay open... ‘Failed’ to deliver... John Boyle, the Irish National Teachers’ Organisation (INTO) general secretary, said the Government had “failed” to deliver a fast-tracked testing and tracing system since schools reopened... [read more here](#)...

Concern that new COVID-19 restrictions could see schools remain open - Virgin Media News @5.30

19 Oct 2020

The teacher’s unions saying today that immediate engagement is needed with the Government in order to give some kind of reassurance to its members. Interview with John Boyle, INTO General Secretary... [watch here](#)...(move to 1:25)

Primary teachers' union calls for details of incidence of Covid-19 in schools - RTÉ.ie

19 Oct 2020

The primary teachers' union INTO has called for the publication of a detailed breakdown of the incidence of Covid-19 in schools amid what it said is increasing concern that public health measures

to protect teachers are inadequate... **"This situation is simply untenable.** If our primary and special schools are to fully reopen after mid-term break and operate safely next month, government must ensure that the necessary protective measures and protocols are put in place within the next fortnight," Mr Boyle added... [read more here...](#)

Teaching union 'increasingly concerned' about public health precautions - Irish Examiner

19 Oct 2020

... With the country on the verge of further Covid-19 restrictions, the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) says it is "growing increasingly" concerned that the current public health precautions for teachers are inadequate... [read more here...](#)

'This situation is simply untenable' - teacher unions pile on pressure for safety measures to be increased in schools - Irish Independent

19 Oct 2020

Teacher unions are piling on pressure for safety measures to be stepped up if schools are to re-open after the mid-term break. An urgent review of the policy on the wearing of face coverings by pupils and staff in primary schools is among the demands of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO)... [read more here...](#)

'We are totally in the dark' - parents respond to closure of school due to Covid outbreak - Irish Independent

19 Oct 2020

...Meanwhile, in a statement issued this morning, the INTO say they are "increasingly concerned" that public health precautions are inadequate. "We are alarmed at comments made by Dr Henry of NPHE, who said it appears widespread community transmission is a threat to schools," said INTO secretary John Boyle... [read more here...](#)

INTO says there's anxiety among teachers nationwide amid fears health precautions are 'inadequate' - thejournal.ie

19 Oct 2020

The situation with testing and contact tracing for teachers has become "simply untenable", the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) has said. In a statement today, the union has sought urgent clarity on a number of matters as the country appears set to be moved to tougher restrictions in the coming days... [read more here...](#)

Primary Teachers have 5 requirements to keep schools open under increased Covid Restrictions - MidWest Radio

19 Oct 2020

The INTO, representing primary teachers, has set out five clear requirements for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increase. The INTO is growing increasingly concerned that public health precautions for teachers are inadequate and in a statement today say they are alarmed at comments made by Dr Henry of NPHE, who said it appears widespread community transmission is a threat to schools...[read more here...](#)

Six key takeaways as Government announce newest restrictions - Extra.ie

19 Oct 2020

... Earlier on Monday the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) made a call for information regarding the incidence rate in schools. The union wants to know the exact number of school staff

who tested positive for COVID-19 since September, with a detailed breakdown of job and school type... [read more here...](#)

LIVE updates as Taoiseach Micheal Martin makes lockdown speech with new Level Five restrictions announced - Irish Mirror

19 Oct 2020

Teachers demand breakdown of Covid-19 in schools... INTO General Secretary John Boyle has said the government had failed to deliver a fit for purpose, sector specific test and trace system since schools reopened. He said: "This has resulted in principal teachers regularly having to initiate out of hours contact with families and staff members when they have been notified of positive tests." ... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Leinster Express

19 Oct 2020

The Irish National Teachers Organisation has set out five clear demands for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increases... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Dundalk Democrat

19 Oct 2020

..."Over the last number of weeks, as significant changes to the public health landscape have taken place, INTO is growing increasingly concerned that public health precautions for teachers are inadequate. We are alarmed at comments made by Dr Henry of NPHET, who said it appears widespread community transmission is a threat to schools," a statement read... [read more here...](#)

INTO 'increasingly concerned' about teachers' health and safety - RollerCoaster.ie

19 Oct 2020

...In a statement today, INTO has said that it has become 'increasingly concerned that public health precautions for teachers are inadequate'...The organisation said that although there is a deep desire to keep schools open, there should be a 'firm commitment to keep schools safe'...[read more here...](#)

CRC FM – News bulletin

19 Oct 2020

The primary Teachers union the INTO has called for the publication of a detailed breakdown of the incidence of Covid-19 in schools amid what it said is increasing concern that public health measures to protect teachers are inadequate. The union wants the exact number of school staff who have tested positive since September to be published with a break down by job and school type. It has called for the publication of medical evidence to support the continuation of attendance in schools of staff who are pregnant or in the high risk health category.

Teacher union sets out five requirements for schools to operate safely - Limerick Leader

19 Oct 2020

...In a press release issued to the media today, the INTO admitted it is "growing increasingly concerned that public health precautions for teachers are inadequate. We are alarmed at comments made by Dr Henry of NPHET, who said it appears widespread community transmission is a threat to schools."... [read more here...](#)

INTO call for data as union voices concern over school safety - Extra.ie

19 Oct 2020

The Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) has shared concern over the safety of schools as the Government is set to announce new restrictions. As daily confirmed cases reach over 1,000 over the last few days, it is understood the Government will announce Level 4 restrictions along with extra measures... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Kilkenny People

19 Oct 2020

The Irish National Teachers Organisation has set out five clear demands for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increases... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Longford Leader

19 Oct 2020

... "It remains imperative that a public health review takes place and that all education stakeholders are immediately convened to explore what this means for our schools. INTO insists that it be represented on any government steering group involved in pandemic planning in primary and special schools... [read more here...](#)

Teaching Unions call for clarity over heightened restrictions - Highland Radio

19 Oct 2020

A teaching union say the difference between a Covid-19 close contact and casual contact needs to be clarified, as well as an urgent review into the wearing of face masks in schools needs to be carried out immediately. The INTO have listed out five requirements for schools to continue to operate in heightened restrictions including an audit of buildings to ensure there is enough protective measures and PPE... [read more here...](#)

Cabinet cautioned against 'overly aggressive restrictions' - The Connaught Telegraph

19 Oct 2020

...Meanwhile, the INTO has set out five clear requirements for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increase... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Offaly Express

19 Oct 2020

... "Many primary teachers have underlying health conditions or have family members whose health is at risk from Covid-19. The threat associated with rising levels of infection in communities is leading to apprehension and anxiety among school staff nationwide, especially in counties where level 4 restrictions already apply... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Carlow Live

19 Oct 2020

"Over the last number of weeks, as significant changes to the public health landscape have taken place, INTO is growing increasingly concerned that public health precautions for teachers are inadequate. We are alarmed at comments made by Dr Henry of NPHET, who said it appears widespread community transmission is a threat to schools," a statement read... [read more here...](#)

Health protections in schools are "inadequate," warns teachers' union - Westmeath Independent

19 Oct 2020

... In a hard-hitting statement issued this morning (Monday), the INTO General Secretary, John Boyle, said the testing and tracing regime is currently unfit for purpose... [read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Waterfordlive

19 Oct 2020

The Irish National Teachers Organisation has set out five clear demands for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increases...[read more here...](#)

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Leitrim Observer

19 Oct 2020

Teachers slam Covid-19 contact tracing and make demands if schools stay open - Leitrim Observer
The Irish National Teachers Organisation has set out five clear demands for schools to operate safely as community infection rates rise and the number of positive tests in schools increases... [read more here...](#)

INTO seeks immediate assurances on the safety of our schools - Q102 & FM104

19 Oct 2020

A teaching union has said that there should be no more than 15 parents gathered at the school gates and that they should all be wearing masks. The INTO demanded a number of measures to keep schools safe in the event of tougher restrictions being brought in across the country, that includes a ban on extracurricular activities and more detailed data and how many staff members have tested positive for cover 19 since September. General Secretary John Boyle says parents have a role to play as well. "If we have mass gatherings of adults anywhere in the country that seems to be a no no, so why should it seem any different outside schools, I mean it makes no sense to us as a union that we would have congregations at school settings and nowhere else in society so it is something that is going to have to be managed and like all the other measures that government are putting in place to protect the economy and society.