



'Happy to Learn'

18th August 2020

Return to School – August 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Following the recent update of the Department of Education's 'Northern Ireland Re-Opening Schools Guidance – New School Day', please see below the revised advice and timetable for the new school term. This is designed to be a working document and is based upon the guidance as it has been presented to date. **All of the below will be reviewed on a weekly basis. Families will be informed of any changes to these arrangements as necessary.**

Start Dates

- As per DE instruction, P7 pupils will return to school on 24th August. P7 pupils will remain in school until 12.15pm throughout this week.
- Mr Moore will hold an after school club for pupils who have registered for the AQE / GL tests from 12.45pm – 2.00pm throughout this week. This is voluntary and pupils must bring their own packed lunch. **Please confirm attendance with Mrs Kirkland via a SeeSaw message by Friday 21st (A MINIMUM OF 5 PUPILS IS REQUIRED);**
- Ms McGivern, Mrs McCracken & Miss Edgar will hold Induction Meetings with parents of incoming Nursery & P1 pupils on Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th;
- P2 – P6 pupils will return to school on 27th August 2020. Pupils will be dismissed on the 27th & 28th at lunch time with staggered start & dismissal times (See below).
- From 1st September **all pupils from P2 – P7 will return to the classroom on a full time basis.**

The School Day

- Pupils will initially return and remain with their previous teacher (i.e. their teacher when school closed) for the first 2 weeks of term. This is to allow for those pupils who are anxious or concerned about a return to school after such a long absence to settle back into a routine;
- Each class will have staggered arrival & dismissal times (See below);
- Instructions on drop off & collection points are below;
- Pupils should proceed directly to their classroom via their designated entrance (see below);
- Due to the removal of social distancing between children, all pupils are now able to be taught in their classroom on a full time basis, thereby forming a 'class bubble';
- From Week 3 of September all pupils will move to their new teacher;
- Break times will be staggered with teachers remaining with their class and the playgrounds being divided accordingly;
- Initially there will be no hot lunches available. The canteen will provide a packed lunch for all FSM pupils and any others wanting one;
- Lunch times will be staggered with outside play time between 12.00pm – 1.00pm.

School Day – 27th & 28th Only

Class	Entrance	Start time	End time	Collected from
P7	Rear Playground Door	8.45am	12.15pm	Lower Car Park
P6	Rear Playground Door	8.45am	12.15pm	Lower Car Park
P5	Main Entrance	8.50am	12.05pm	Lower Car Park
P4	Nursery Entrance	8.50am	12.05pm	Lower Car Park
P3	Main Entrance	8.55am	11.55am	Lower Car Park
P2	Main Entrance	8.50am	11.55am	Lower Car Park

School Day

Class	Entrance	Start time	End time	Collected from
P7	Rear Playground Door	8.45am	2.45pm	Lower Car Park
P6	Rear Playground Door	8.45am	2.45pm	Lower Car Park
P5	Main Entrance	8.50am	2.50pm	Lower Car Park
P4	Nursery Entrance	8.50am	2.50pm	Lower Car Park
P3	Main Entrance	8.55am	1.55pm	Lower Car Park
P2	Main Entrance	8.50am	1.45pm	Lower Car Park
PI New (first 2 weeks)	Nursery Entrance	9.00am	12.00pm	Nursery Entrance

PI and Nursery will get further details at their induction meeting.

The Curriculum

- We aim to continue to provide the best learning and teaching to your child(ren) even within these unusual times. Alongside the delivery of the curriculum we will also be implementing a comprehensive support system for our pupils to ensure they feel safe and happy to learn. This will involve a portion of everyday focusing on mental wellbeing and open discussions between teachers, learning assistants and pupils.
- All pupils will continue to be catered for and supported according to their ability level. Learning support will take place as normal within the school setting, relevant families will receive further information concerning how and when this will take place. At this stage, we are unsure about whether support from external agencies will be available.
- Due to the need to make the greatest use of space within the classrooms and to minimise the risks to our pupils, any furniture that can be removed from a classroom will be (class

libraries, soft furnishings etc.). As far as possible, pupils will be required to remain at their desks whilst in the classroom.

- As we are blessed with such extensive school grounds, when possible, pupil learning will take place outside to allow our children the chance to enjoy the fresh air and for their health and wellbeing.
- There will be no Shared Education activities this academic year.
- Unfortunately, there will be no After Schools Clubs or swimming this year (to be reviewed pending Department of Education guidance).
- Music tuition tutors will be in touch with families regarding lessons.
- We would ask parents to send in a pair of trainers only with their child (these will be required to stay in school) to allow for spontaneous PE. Pupils must be able to tie their own laces. Pupils will not be required to change into full PE kit.

Additional Information

- Please remember to send your child to school with all of the classroom resources detailed in the attachment to their report sent home in June;
- Following further guidance, a decision will be made regarding Breakfast Club and 2-2-3 Club;
- Please do not send your child to school with a school bag for the first 2 weeks;
- If your child is considered to be 'clinically vulnerable' and you are unsure as to whether your child is able to attend school, please contact Mr Moore to discuss this;
- In line with our Safeguarding Policy, as well as the new Covid 19 advice, no adults will be admitted to school without a prior appointment;
- Any adults coming into school must wear a mask and use hand sanitizer provided;
- Please remember social distancing rules whilst dropping off and collecting children;
- A new one-way system will operate from the Lower Car Park and around the Upper Car Park for all pupils and adults;
- The letter issued to parents from the Department of Education detailing how schools can reopening safely is available to read here - <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/education-restart-letter-parents-and-carers-minister-education>;
- **PLEASE REMEMBER IF YOUR CHILD EXHIBITS ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19 THEY MUST NOT BE SENT TO SCHOOL. PLEASE FOLLOW PHA GUIDELINES.**

These guidelines are not exhaustive and are open to change throughout the new school term but I hope they provide some clarity as to how we aim to have our pupils return safely to full time schooling. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming you all back to school after what has been an extremely difficult and testing time for the whole community.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M. Moore
Principal

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