



8th March 2021

Dear Parents

Hopefully you are all well and getting to enjoy some of this lovely spring weather. Thankfully it looks like better times are ahead and we are looking forward to welcoming our P1, P2 and P3 children back to school on Monday 8th March. Based upon what we have been given by the authorities they will be in school for two weeks for face to face learning and then back to home learning from Monday 22nd March until the Easter break. Children must wear school uniform and bring schoolbags. (Please keep contents of schoolbags to a minimum.) Work packs for P4-P7 children may be collected this Friday 5th March from 11am until 2pm.

Please bear in mind that we expect confirmation of details tomorrow and things may change. We will do our utmost that if this is the case, changes will be minimal.

School Routine beginning Mon 8 th March 2021				
No breakfast club or after school provision is permitted at this time.				
Classes		Drop off	Pick Up Mon-Thurs	Pick Up Friday
P1		09:00	14:00	13:45
P2		09:00	14:00	13:45
P3		09:05	14:15	13:55
P4-P7 Keyworker & Vulnerable Children	Children may come in with younger siblings.	From 08:45	With younger siblings or up to 3pm.	No later than 2pm

The staggered times are necessary to reduce the instances of contact before entering the school building. When the children return, we will follow our hygiene routine that worked so well in the first term and aim to maintain the bubble system to keep children and staff as safe as possible. On arrival children must use hand sanitiser before entering the building, with all bubbles having their own entrance and exit points.

Social distancing and hygiene measures will be maintained throughout the school

- Hand sanitiser at each entry/exit point to be used before entering building
- Children must wash hands for 20 seconds after entering building (start of day and after each playtime)
- Regular hand washing during the school day (Soap dispensers in each classroom)
- Surfaces cleaned regularly throughout the day
- Individual pupil resource packs that will remain in school at all times – including consumables such as pencil, rubber etc.
- School dinner/lunches eaten in classroom to maintain protective bubble
- Staggered break and playtimes to maintain protective bubble



- Classrooms, toilets, cloakrooms will be sanitised daily

Do not drop children off before their designated time, unless they have an older sibling. We also ask that no vehicles enter school grounds more than five minutes prior to pick up time. (E.g. 2pm pick up cars should not be in school grounds before 1:55pm.) Some classes/bubbles may be on their lunch break outside or enjoying PE and it poses a risk to their safety.

School meals will be available from Monday 8th for all children attending school. Those in P1, P2 & P3 who receive free school meals will be able to order as normal. Keyworker and vulnerable children may also order a meal, but all these meals must be paid for via the Schoolmoney App. £2.30 per meal.

P1 snack and milk costs £6 per month. P2 milk costs £3 per month. (Snack is not provided in P2.) Payment via Schoolmoney please.

All children should eat healthy break from Monday – Thursday and Friday is treat day, although during Lent we encourage the children to fast from treats. Children are not permitted to have chocolate, sweets, biscuits, etc on healthy days.

Due to some children having severe nut allergies we are a **NUT-FREE** school. This includes peanuts, Nutella, peanut butter, Snickers, M&Ms, some varieties of cereal bars (check labels) etc. Children should only eat what is in their **own** lunchbox and any uneaten food must be taken home. This is extremely important to remember as we return.

As with our last school restart back in August, please note:

Children who are feeling unwell with temperatures, colds, flu, vomiting, diarrhoea earaches, sore throats etc should not be in school. This should always be the case.

1. They are miserable in school.
2. They pass their illness on to their classmates.
3. Minor illness can temporarily reduce the ability of the sick child's immune system to fight more serious infections.

Consequently, they should stay at home and only come to school when the symptoms are cleared. School should be contacted via telephone to explain a child's absence, no written notes are to be sent in to school. In the event of any positive cases, we will follow PHA advice completely.

Note - Should your child/children appear unwell or display any of the symptoms of Covid-19 they must not come to school. If this happens during the school day we will isolate in a specific area of school and ring immediately for you to come to school. Please ensure all contact details are up to date.



Symptoms include:

a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature), or;

- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual), or;

- **anosmia** - the loss or a change in your normal sense of smell (it can also affect your sense of taste)
(Source: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-overview-and-advice>)

As per DE guidance we must request that parents or carers do not enter the school building unless by prior appointment. Mrs Cope will be happy to help if you phone the office. If you have any issues or concerns, please contact us immediately and we will be happy to help.

It is essential that we have the correct contact details for you. It is also vital that we have at least three contact numbers for your child in the event of an emergency. All communications from school will be via our school website and the NI Schools App. We will also be using the School Money system for payments. Any difficulties with these, contact Mrs Cope and she will guide you through it.

Thank you so much for all of your hard work and support. While it's great that we get to see our youngest children back, let's hope that we can welcome all of the children back to school very soon.

Thank you

M McGrath