



2nd January 2021

Dear Parents

We were due to open for all children on Monday 4th January. We were looking forward to seeing the children and hearing about the fun they had over Christmas. However, we now have had to adjust the start of term. In response to the announcement regarding school reopening, we have the following arrangements in place for next week.

The minister has indicated that all primary pupils should be working remotely for the first week of term and schools must be open only for specific groups of children as follows:

Monday 4th - school closed for all pupils. Staff will be in school finishing their preparation of work for those children who must remain at home. Work packs can be collected from school from 9:45am on Tuesday morning. Please adhere to social distancing rules when collecting these work packs. Teachers will be in touch on Seesaw from Tuesday 5th.

Tues 5th – Friday 8th - School will be open for the supervision of vulnerable children, children with statements of special educational need and children of key workers. A form will be sent via the school app to everyone and if you are a key worker and want your child/children to attend next week, please return this as soon as possible, no later than 2pm on Monday. This will allow us to ensure we have covered all health and safety requirements. These children will be supervised through the work packs that will be used by everyone. School meals are so far unavailable and packed lunches are required. Those on free school meals will have received payments in lieu.

Note: The key worker definitions are included in the form that you can access from the school app.

Children **MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL** if they have COVID-19 symptoms:

1. A new and continuous cough
2. High temperature/fever
3. Loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Remember if you or any of your family have any symptoms of Co-vid 19, contact: <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/> or phone 111 and follow their advice.

Please reinforce with your children the importance of hygiene and hand washing frequently. They were so good during the first term and we need this to continue.

This is not the start to the new school term that we would have wanted and we hope that we are able to return to having everyone back from Monday 11th January as the minister has stated. While he has said this, who knows what another week will bring? Please note arrangements may change so please keep an eye on the school app and the media who always seem to have the most up to date information long before we do.

M McGrath

Principal: Mr M McGrath B.Ed.(Hons), PQH (NI)

16 St Patrick's Road, Saul,

Downpatrick, Co. Down

BT30 7JG

E-mail: info@stpatricksspssaul.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk

www.stpatricksprimsaul.co.uk

Tel. 028 4461 4145