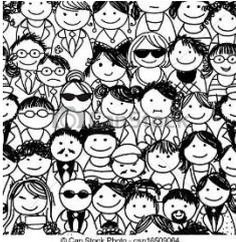


Sunday 1 November 2020

Dear Parents

Updated guidance has now reached schools to help us all keep safe from Covid. I ask that you please read the following, which should become the 'new expectations' as of 2 November 2020.

	<p>Face coverings should be worn by adults at all times where they cannot keep 2 metres from other adults and/or children in primary and secondary schools (with some exceptions in Nursery and P1-2). Please tell your children to expect to see staff wearing these on Monday 2 November. Staff may remove them at some points e.g. whole class teaching when children are seated at desks and not near the teacher.</p>
	<p>Face coverings should also be worn by parents and other visitors to any school site (whether entering the building or otherwise), including parents at drop-off and pick-up. This includes all parents who enter the playground AND those waiting at the gates.</p>
	<p>Children should be reminded by own parents not to gather on the pavement outside the school gate/fence as this makes it harder for others to get past. At arrival at school, children should enter the playground immediately and not go in/out/in/out, to help reduce congestion. Parents are again respectfully asked NOT to gather chatting on the pavement – we all need to heed the 2m guidance and ensure others can get past. All bikes must be pushed straight into school and be parked immediately. Children are not permitted to ride bikes around the gate area.</p>
	<p>Teachers/staff handling of jotters and books etc is mitigated by good hand hygiene (washing with soap and/or use of hand sanitiser) – therefore some aspects of quarantining books can be reduced. We will still do this with reading books and have a system in school for this.</p>
	<p>Children can now borrow books from the school library – they will be encouraged to look with their eyes, not their hands. Hand sanitiser will be used before/after browsing. Books may stay at home for up to 2 weeks and children may borrow up to 2 books. One will stay in school trays for reading. Parents are reminded that if your child loses a library book at home we ask you to contribute £3 to its replacement.</p>
	<p>PE can now take place indoors, in poor weather (we will continue outdoors if fair/safe to do so). Children must still sanitise their hands before/after use of equipment and the gym hall door will remain open to support good ventilation. Children should continue to wear PE clothes to school on their gym day. Please make sure your child has gym shoes/trainers to wear for indoor PE.</p>
	<p>Children will go outdoors for breaks when safe to do so. Sadly, some children come to school in shoes that are not appropriate/water-proof. Parents should ensure their child has dry shoes to change into on wet days.</p>
	<p>Meetings with parents should continue to be virtual (and not face-to-face). We will send home our plans for Parent Contacts this week. Parents are respectfully reminded not to 'catch the teacher' at the door. Any communications should be over the phone/email or if necessary by speaking with the Head Teacher in the playground (at a 2m distance, and wearing masks).</p>

	<p>Remote Learning – is to take place when your child cannot attend school due to self-isolation or Lockdown. Almost all learning will take place on Seesaw. Last week we asked you to return information to us letting us know the devices you have at home to help with this. Parents will be our partners in the responsibility to support their child’s learning at home, should this be necessary. Please contact the Head Teacher if you want to discuss this further.</p>
	<p>We are now holding Virtual Assemblies for P1-7 pupils, where children can hear updates on school news. Children need to know the expectations so they can stick to them. We have asked children to now keep 2m away from the gate/fence during break times. We have reminded children they should not speak with any passers-by through the fence – even if they know them! Please understand this is to keep your children safe.</p>

John Swinney, Deputy First Minister, said

“It is vital that all the measures are followed rigorously in schools. Doing that – together with the collective efforts of all of us across wider society – will help to ensure that schools can safely remain open.”

I am sure you want school to remain open – as do we! So please respect the information noted above and ensure you follow this guidance. School staff will do likewise. Whilst Perth remains in the TIER 2 category, the risks are manageable.

Guidance on face coverings does not apply to those with exemptions.

I notice that some children are not road safe when exiting the playground so teachers will continue to remind kids about this. Parents should do the same with their own child, please.

With thanks for your continued support in these challenging times,

Fiona Whittet

Head Teacher