



We grow as we learn.

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Dear Parents and Families

## Welcome Back to School!

I hope that everyone has had a good summer break, despite the current constraints with COVID-19. All of the staff team in Kirklandneuk Primary are excited and looking forward to welcoming pupils back to school this week.

Thank you for your patience as we have been working through the statutory risk assessments to ensure maximum safety for all children and staff returning this week.

### COVID-19 UPDATE

As you will be acutely aware, COVID -19 has not yet gone away and although there is no requirement for pupils to socially distance, there is still a requirement for staff-pupil social distancing, staff-staff social distancing and adult-adult social distancing within the school and the wider community. The general advice on COVID-19 still applies and the Scottish Government has also produced guidance on the safe reopening of schools which all schools are closely adhering to. These guidelines set out the conditions that need to be in place to ensure a safe return to school for all. As a result, although staff will endeavour to make the return as 'normal' and reassuring as possible some changes to school and classroom routines will be necessary. As the weeks progress, I will keep everyone informed of any changes through our new WEEKLY NEWLETTER which will be uploaded to SeeSaw and the School App every Friday.

### DATES FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Pupils will begin a phased return from Wednesday 12th August 2020:

Date	Classes in school	Start time	Collection time
Wed 12th August	P1 and P7 only	Arrive anytime between 8.45-9.00 (staff will be there to guide you all)	<b>P1:</b> Collect between 2.45-3.00 at P1 doors <b>P7:</b> 3.00 finish
Thurs 13th August	P1, P2, P3, P4 and P7	Arrive anytime between 8.45-9.00 (staff will be there to guide you all)	<b>P1:</b> Collect between 2.45-3.00 at P1 doors <b>P2:</b> Collect at 3.00 from infant playground; P2 from P2/3 composite will exit from Rm 7 door ramp (staff will guide you)

			<p><b>P3:</b> Collect between 2.45-3.00 from the main entrance (spots on ground)</p> <p><b>P4, P7:</b> 3.00 finish</p>
Fri 15th August	P1-P7 (whole school)	Arrive anytime between 8.45-9.00 (staff will be there to guide you all)	<p><b>P1:</b> Collect between 2.45-3.00 at P1 doors</p> <p><b>P2:</b> Collect at 3.00 from infant playground; P2 from P2/3 composite will exit from Rm 7 door ramp (staff will guide you)</p> <p><b>P3:</b> Collect between 2.45-3.00 from the main entrance (spots on ground)</p> <p><b>P4, P5, P6, P7:</b> 3.00 finish</p>

**Please note that the above arrival / collection times will hopefully facilitate enough physical distancing. If this does not work out, we will revise this.**

#### **LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

The school day will run from 9.00- 3.00 with a 'soft start' to stagger pupil entry as illustrated in the table above. **All pupils will be able to enter the school building from 8.45 to ease congestion and to facilitate handwashing procedures.** Breaks and lunchtimes will be staggered throughout the day to avoid large groups of pupils gathering in any one space. Pupils are encouraged to stay in school for lunch however if a pupil wishes to go home for lunch, we would ask that the parent/carer contacts the school office so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

#### **START OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

Staff will be on hand in the playground each morning for the next few weeks to direct pupils to the correct entrance. When pupils arrive between 8.45-9.00, they will use hand sanitiser (P3-7) or wash their hands on-entry (P1-2).

In order to avoid congestion and to maintain the current physical distancing protocols, we would ask all parents of pupils in P4-7 to drop your child at the nearest school gate (please contact us if this will cause you any difficulty); parents of pupils in P1-3 may come into the playground with their children – yellow circles have been spray painted onto the playground to support adult physical distancing.

Classroom entry doors will be closed at 9.00 to ensure the security of the building. If a pupil arrives later than 9.00, they should come to the main entrance.

#### **END OF DAY COLLECTION**

**To support physical distancing and to ease congestion, pupils in P1 and P3 can be collected from their door from 2.45.** This will allow most P1 and P3 families to exit the playground in time for the next collection time of 3.00 for P2. At 3.00, P2 will be released to their collecting adult from their door – P2 parents must be in the playground by 3pm. Staff will bring all other classes (P4-7) into the playground for dismissal; P4-7 parents are asked to wait outside the school grounds. All adults are reminded of the strict physical distancing protocols in place at this time.

We would suggest for P4-7 pupils who are being collected that families make an arrangement to meet your child at an agreed location outwith the school playground. If there are extenuating circumstances and/or specific needs for pupils in P4-7, collecting adults may collect from the playground - we just ask that you adhere to the social distancing guidelines with only 1 adult per family attending for collection. As always parents should remind pupils that if for any reason, they are unable to locate the adult who is collecting them or if they forget the arrangements, they should return to the school office and a phone call will be made.

## **UNIFORM**

There is no change from previous communications about uniform for this year: white polo shirt, burgundy sweatshirt for P1-6, black sweatshirt for P7, black joggies or leggings, black or white trainers and an appropriate waterproof outer layer. Please also provide your child with black indoor gym shoes. As in previous communications, school uniform can be branded or unbranded. P7 pupils will be issued with a black senior jumper on their first day (Wed 12 Aug) since they won't be wearing a tie this year.

All PE will initially be outdoors (as per Scottish Government advice) and pupils will be participating in increased outdoor learning each week - please bear this in mind each day and ensure your child comes dressed for the weather. **Please write your child's name and class on all school clothing.**

## **WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL**

As per previous communications, **pupils do not require a school bag just now** (this will be reviewed as we move forward). We will issue all children with a Homework Bag this week which can be used for the transfer of homework (eventually, but not yet!) and a snack. As described in the passports which are now available for all pupils on SeeSaw, staff will show children where to store homework bags and packed lunch bags/box.

**Pupils should also bring a bottle of water to school each day which can be refilled if required in school - water coolers have now all been flushed and cleaned and are ready for use.** Again, please write your child's name on their water bottle if you can.

Pupils can bring a packed lunch box and snack to school which will be kept in individual pupil zones in class.

**There is no requirement for pupils to bring stationery to school.** Pupils will be provided with all of the resources that are required.

To minimise cross-contamination, we ask that pupils do not bring any toys or other personal belongings to school.

## **READING BOOKS**

Any pupil who still has a reading book at home is asked to return it on their first day back. Any reading books returned to school need to be quarantined for 72hrs.

## **LUNCHES**

For the first 3 weeks of school (August), packed lunches will be available from the school kitchen. These will be provided to all P1-3 pupils and those who receive free school meals (vegetarian options available each day). P4-7 pupils will have the opportunity to buy a school packed lunch. Pupils can also bring their own packed lunch to school if they wish.

Pre and post lunch handwashing will be maintained and pupils will eat lunch in the dining hall or gym hall to avoid large numbers gathering in the dining hall.

For specific dietary requirements, please contact Mrs Wallace if your child is in P1-3 or Mrs Coyle if your child is in P4-7.

Hot lunches will be reintroduced in the near future and parents will be informed of this as soon as we are made aware of the change.

If pupils intend to go home for lunch we would ask that the parent/carer calls the school to arrange this as lunch breaks will be staggered to ensure adult social distancing for staff lunches.

### **SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

For those who travel on the school bus, this is classed as an extension of the school estate, pupil-pupil social distancing is not required and pupils do not need to wear a face covering. It is recommended that where possible pupils sit with any siblings when travelling and sit in the same seat for each journey. Pupils must not consume food or drink on the bus.

### **HYGIENE**

Hygiene protocols will be maintained at all times. Handwashing facilities and hand sanitisers are available around the school and pupils will wash their hands throughout the day. They will also be encouraged to continue to follow the good practice around Catch It, Bin It, Kill It. A day cleaner has been employed and will clean frequently touched surfaces and toilet areas throughout the school. Pupils will be encouraged to keep their own space clean and tidy.

### **FACE COVERINGS AND PPE**

Face covering may be worn in school by anyone - pupils and adults. Adults will wear a face covering if working in close proximity (less than 2m) with pupils for a period of time. Adults delivering first aid and medical or intimate care will wear the appropriate PPE as stated in current guidelines.

### **FIRST AID / ILLNESS**

First aid will be provided as before, however the adult will wear appropriate PPE. If a child feels unwell and presents with non-COVID symptoms, normal procedures will apply. If a child presents with COVID symptoms, they will be isolated in the COVID Isolation Room (supervised by an adult) until collected. Upon collection, the parent should follow the Test and Protect procedures.

### **AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Our after school care is provided by 'Momags' and will resume from Monday 24 August 2020.

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

We hope to be in a position to resume our Breakfast Club in a few weeks' time and will provide information regarding this next week.

Finally, I apologise for the sheer amount of information here and for the delay in sending this out to families.

Please look out for the Weekly Newsletter on a Friday which will keep everyone up-to-date with school life and COVID changes. On behalf of the team here at Kirklandneuk, thank you for your continued patience. We are looking forward to seeing everyone this week. 😊

Kind regards

K MacKechnie  
**Interim Head Teacher**