

02/07/20



Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you so much for your huge commitment to home schooling during recent months. We greatly appreciate your support.

We are still facing uncertainty in regard to how the school day will look in September 2020. Following the Education Restart document issued on Friday June 19th, the Board of Governors has decided that all pupils will return to school five days a week in Term One. In order to facilitate this, we will maximise use of the physical space within the school building and employ a protective bubble strategy with class groups. This approach is in accordance with current social distancing regulations of 1m between children and 2m between adults in an educational setting – this may be subject to change in the coming weeks.

Children will still be required to wear school uniform. Stationery (pens, pencils, rubbers, markers etc...) must still be provided by parents for children from P3-7 but this stationery should be brought in on the first day and will remain in school to avoid cross-contamination. Children will be encouraged not to share these resources. Schoolbags and pencil cases may not be needed initially. Uniforms will be worn - good hygiene practices will be required with frequent washing of uniforms therefore some flexibility may be allowed with PE gear permitted as appropriate.

In accordance with current DENI recommendations, our Primary 7 pupils will return to school on Monday 24th August. They will come to school at 9.20am and remain in school until 3pm. All Primary 7 pupils are expected to attend school for four days that week from Monday 24th August to Thursday 27th August. On Thursday 27th August, there will be a half day and pupils can be collected at 1pm. Friday 28th August is a Staff Training day and Monday 31st August is a bank holiday therefore pupils will be off school.

All other classes from P2 –P6 will start school on Thursday 27th August. This will be a half-day finishing at 1pm and it will provide the opportunity for these pupils to see their classrooms and meet the teachers, therefore easing their return to school full-time on Tuesday 1st September. To date, we have no transport or catering service information. Staggered drop off and collection times may be necessary to avoid congestion at the school entrance. Pupils will be off on Friday 28th August and Monday 31st August.

Primary 1 pupils will also have the opportunity to meet their teacher on Wednesday 26th August. Each parent and child will be given a half hour time slot to visit the school, meet the teacher and become familiar with the classroom surroundings. Three families will be present at one time in the Primary 1 classroom. Primary 1 will then have a staggered intake from Tuesday 1st September and these dates will be issued shortly to parents.

PLEASE NOTE, ALL OF THE ABOVE WILL BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF THERE IS A CHANGE IN DEPARTMENTAL GUIDANCE.

We have really missed all our pupils and are looking forward to seeing them all again and getting to know our new Primary Ones.

Have a lovely summer as, with Home Schooling, you have certainly earned it!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Mary Redmond

Principal