

Plans for 8 – 26 March 2021

1 March 2021

Dear parents

We are looking forward to welcoming our younger pupils back into school next week. Whilst we are disappointed that all our pupils can't yet return, we believe the youngest pupils are in most need of practical, face to face teaching.

Restart for P1-P3 Pupils

DENI has said that P1-P3 pupils can return to school from 8-19 March 2021. This equates to 9 days in school, as St Patrick's Day falls during this fortnight. When contacted about whether we could remain open on St Patrick's Day, the EA said it was not possible due to it being a statutory EA holiday.

Start/finish times for P1-P3 will remain staggered as it was for term 1.

Class	Start Time	Finish Time
P1	9.00 am	2.00 pm
P2	8.50 am	1.50 pm
P3	9.00 am	2.30 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed) /2.00 pm (Thurs & Fri)
SCU1	8.55 – 9.00 am	2.00 pm
P4-P7 Key Worker & Vulnerable	9.00 am	3.00 pm (P4 - 2.00 pm on Fridays)

Please note DENI has advised that home-learning will recommence for P1-P3 pupils in the week beginning 22 March.

School Meals

School meals will be available during the period 8-19 March. As always, pupils may bring a packed lunch.

**Important to note for pupils entitled to Free School Meals*

- *P1-P3 pupils will be entitled to Free School Meals within school, as home payments will stop during these 2 weeks.*
- *P4-P7 Key Worker & Vulnerable pupils will have to pay for all meals ordered, as Free School home payments will continue during these 2 weeks*

Mitigation strategies

It is every bit as important as it was last term to continue with additional measures to prevent the spread of Covid, as best we can.

- P1-P3 pupils will restart in class 'bubbles' as for last term
- Key Worker & Vulnerable bubbles will change to:
 - P4 room - supported by classroom assistants
 - P5 room - supported by classroom assistants
 - P6, P7 & SCU2 room – supported by classroom assistants*Teachers will be on a rota to supervise these rooms*

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- Hand hygiene - Pupils will wash their hands on arrival, before eating and after returning to the classroom from the playground
- No items from home to be brought in except for a wipeable lunchbox
- There will be continued attention to wiping surfaces, contact points and resources used by pupils throughout the school day
- Adults may wear masks in the classroom
- Reinforcement of respiratory hygiene – Catch it, Bin it, Kill it. Coughing into elbow, etc.
- Windows will be open to help ventilation
- There will be no large communal events – assembly, dinners in hall, etc.
- PE will be taken outside
- Parents are not permitted in the school building unless by prior appointment

Drop Off & Collection

We thank you for your patience, support and adherence to our requests for social distancing in the playground last term. We remind you to keep your distance from other parents and pupils in the playground, particularly around the pedestrian gate which is a pinch point.

Crossing Patrol will be back in operation from 8-19 March enabling you to park in the church car park and cross Church Road safely.

We would ask that you please wear a mask if you plan to wait with your child inside the school playground.

In order to keep the playground as free of people as possible, please do not enter the school playground or wait at the gates for more than 5 minutes before your child's start or finish time. Older pupils (P5-P7 key worker & vulnerable) should enter & leave the playground unaccompanied.

COVID-19 Symptoms

It continues to be most important that you do not send your child to school if they or anyone in your household displays any of the following symptoms:

- *Temperature*
- *Persistent cough*
- *Loss of taste or smell*

We will take the temperature (using a non-contact thermometer) of any child falling unwell in school. We will follow all DENI/PHA procedures for when any child or adult present with symptoms in school.

Please do not send your child to school if anyone in your household is awaiting a Covid test result.

Packs for P4-P7

The next pack will contain work for 13.5 days, which will take pupils up to the Easter holidays. This will be distributed at the usual outdoor points:

9.30 – 10.30 am on Friday 5 March 2021.

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Holidays

17 March 2021	St Patrick's Day	No home-learning or on-site facilities available this day
29 March – 9 April	Easter	12 noon finish for Key Worker & vulnerable pupils on Friday 26 March

We will initially be focussing on a reconnect to school to ensure our P1-P3 pupils settle back happily, it is important you let the class teacher know if you have any concerns regarding this. We need to continue to take the COVID-19 guidance seriously and sensibly and work together to ensure we can provide the safest and happiest environment for some of our wonderful pupils and staff to return to.

Yours sincerely



Barbara Preston