5/3/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds yourself, your family and friends all well.

I am writing to you all, in relation to us returning to all of our children being back in school from Monday 15th March. It has been great having our P1-3s back and we are really looking forward to seeing all of our P4-7s soon too.

We have been working hard to get ready again for a safe and happy return to school for all of our children. We are hoping that everyone can take time to read this letter carefully in order that we keep our whole school community safe at this still quite unpredictable time.

School hours for all will be **9a.m. – 3.15p.m.**

Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered. Some classes will have their break from **10.10- 10.25** others will have a break from **10.35 – 10.50**

**Lunchtime arrangements will be the same as they were prior to Christmas.**

**All classes will have lunch from 12.15-12.45 in their own rooms, supported by support staff.**

The school lunch menu can be found by clicking on this link.

<https://www.tayside-contracts.co.uk/_assets/_user/files/Catering/School-Catering/Primary_School_Meals_Service/Primary%20School%20Menu_2021-2022.pdf>

Six classes will have time in the playground from 11.45-12.15, seven will be in the playground from 12.45-1.15.

We are hoping that most children will stay in school for lunch, however, should you wish to take your child/children home then you can collect them from their normal door (a map is included later in this letter) **at 12.10 and all should be back in school by 12.50** to return to either their class or the playground.

1. A map is included in this letter showing where classes should line up and also which doors, they will come out of each day.
2. We will endeavour to make sure children come out of school promptly at home time but as we have a number of classes coming out each of the entrances, we have worked out an order for classes to leave.

**Main Door – P4/3, P5a, P7b, P7a**

**Back door – P3/2, P4, P5/4, P5b, P6a, P6b**

**Ramp beside Back Door – P1a, P1b**

**Stairs near Main Door – P2**

1. **Parents/carers of P1 and P2 children** as you know, have been able to come into the playground to drop off and collect children. We are hoping that from Monday 15th March almost all parents/carers of our P1 and P2 children will be able to bring their child/children into the playground, see them settled and then leave to go home/to work etc. without waiting in the playground until the bell rings. There will be many more children in all of the playground areas and, as all adults should be 2m away from children (other than your own) distancing will be very difficult to maintain if all parents who are staying in the playground at the moment, stay from 15th March. As you know our Leadership Team and support staff are in the playground every morning and can support children if needed. Should your child be upset at any point then we do understand that you may wish to stay with them to support.
2. At 3.15pm as children will be coming out in a specific order and as we are hoping to keep numbers gathering at the school gate to a minimum, parents/carers of P1 and P2 children can come into the playground to wait for their children. Please however, leave the playground as swiftly as you can, maintain strict social distancing and wear a face covering at all times, unless exempt.
3. **Parents/Carers of P3 – 7 parents should not enter the playground**. Children should come into the playground as close to 9a.m. as possible and make their way to their own lines. At 3.15p.m. if you are collecting your child from school, please watch out for their class and move forward to the gate you are meeting your child at when you see them. Even better, if your child is able to safely meet you a bit further away from the school or walk home with friends or by themselves then this will ease congestion at the school gates. We understand that parents of more than one child will not necessarily move away until they have collected all children.
4. On wet days we will not be able to bring children into school before 9a.m. Children would then be together as a large group inside and this is currently not permitted by the Scottish Government guidance. Children should line up as normal and they will be brought into school by their teachers at 9a.m. Children should arrive at school as close to 9a.m. as possible. If they arrive earlier, they may be able to shelter in the outdoor classroom, covered area in the playground. Parents should not use this shelter as distancing would be difficult.
5. **Please be very mindful of our School Crossing Patrollers safety.** Please remember distancing around them both at this time. Please do not gather in groups on Ancrum Road or at the back of the school. We would ask that in the morning, parents/carers of P3-7 children see their children into the playground (if this is required) and then swiftly leave to go home /to work etc.
6. **Face coverings as you know should be worn in the playground and at drop off and pick-up points unless there are exemptions.**
7. **Please be reminded that parents/carers should not enter the school building at all, unless called by the school in the case of an emergency.** The school should be contacted by email at ancrumroad@dundeeschools.scot or telephone on 435929. Call volumes may be higher at the moment than normal. We ask for your understanding at this time and will get back to you as soon as we can. Voicemails will be checked regularly, and responses again made as soon as we can.

We really are looking forward to all of our children returning to school. In order to keep all of them, yourselves as parents and carers, and our staff safe, we all need to work together, and I am sure that everyone will play their own part to ensure our collective safety.

Thank you all for everything you have done to support our children during this second lockdown. It really has felt for us as a school, that we have all been a team. I hope you have felt the same.

Take care of yourselves and each other and know that we are here to support you all.

Kindest regards.

Sharon McQuillan

Sharon McQuillan HT

