**17th February 2021**

**Changes to In-school Learning for all Children in P1-3 from 22nd February 2021**

**and Updated Guidance for those in P4-7**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will probably all by now know, all children in P1, P2 and P3 will be returning to school on Monday 22nd February.

On this day children should come to school and line up in their normal places. They should wear school uniform, as should children in P4-7 who have places to attend our in-school hub. They should bring a filled water bottle if possible and may bring their school bags, but will not at this time need a PE kit or pencil cases etc. They should not bring back to school their Home Learning Kits – these can be kept at home to assist with Homework etc. when this is issued. Children will have in school, their own ‘school kits’.

P1a, P1b, and P3/2 should line up in the big playground and P2 and the P3s of P4/3 at the main door side in their normal spots.

All P4-7 children attending school on their agreed dates should line up in their groups on the mugapitch at the back of the school.

School hours will be normal from 9a.m. -3.15p.m. with lunch for all being from 12.15p.m.-1.15pm. Breakfast Club for those who have places will be open as normal from 8a.m. – 9a.m.

Children can bring packed lunches but as you know, all P1-P3s can choose a free hot bagged lunch from the current menu:

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

if they wish to have one. Children in P4-7 who are entitled to a free school meal can choose from the menu also, other children in P4-7 can choose to pay for a hot bagged lunch if they wish.

All children will continue, as before, to eat their lunches in classrooms between 12.15p.m. and 12.45p.m.and then have a break outdoors (unless there is bad weather) from 12.45p.m.-1.15p.m. Morning break will be from 10.30a.m.-10.45a.m. and children will play at break time and lunchtime, when outdoors, in the areas in which they line up.

Parents of P1 and P2 children may still bring their children into the playground but should, at all times, wear a face covering (unless exempt) and should maintain strict social distancing of 2m at all times with all other adults who are not part of your own household and also all other children in the playground. If your child does not need this support, we would urge that you allow them to come into the playground by themselves – staff will be there to support.

Parents should all stay at least 2m away from the lines when children line up. Parents should not stand beside their children in lines and should not walk with their children as the lines move forwards. If your child is not able to enter with their classmates without your direct support, then you should both stand back from the line until all children have entered in order that 2m distancing can be adhered to. Your child will then be supported into school by our staff.

Our advice from the Scottish Government is that new variations of COVID are now airborne, thus the changes to our routines. We are trying very hard to keep our whole community safe.

As you may have heard/read during Nicola Sturgeon’s most recent update on schools re-opening for more children, one of the government’s concerns is parents at school gates mixing with each other and not following 2m distancing and face covering guidance. We hope that you all, as our parent body, will consider this carefully and follow guidance not only in the playground but at drop off and pick-up times around the school perimeter. We have been advised that the greater the co-operation for following guidance around schools, the more likely it will be, that other children can come back to in school teaching sooner. We all I’m sure hope that this can happen asap and we can all, it seems, play our part in this. We thank you in advance for supporting our school community with distancing 2m and wearing face coverings in the streets around our school.

We are very happy that the return to school programme has now started and it is our hope that our P4-7s will follow as soon as it is safe for all, for them to do so. Remote learning will continue for our P4-7 children in SEESAW and TEAMs. Thank you all for all support with this so far. We really appreciate and will continue to value your help.

Please take care of yourselves at this still very challenging time and please get in touch if we can help or support in any way.

Kind regards,

Sharon McQuillan

Sharon McQuillan – Head Teacher