

## **Autumn 2020 Restart Plan**

It is very exciting to be able to think about returning to school after such a long time apart. We can't wait to see you! School will be a little different this Autumn and we want to make sure that you understand what is going to happen.

### **The Scientific Evidence**

The coronavirus (Covid-19) is a new illness and scientists are still learning about it. So far, the research shows that:

- There is relatively low immediate risk to children's health from SARS -CoV-2 (high degree of confidence) with evidence indicating that children/adolescents have lower susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 infection (low confidence) and clinical disease (high confidence) than adults.
- There is some (but limited) evidence that children play a lesser role in transmission than adults
- In countries where schools have been open for some time, data suggests in most cases, that school opening has made little difference to community transmission.

### **Northern Ireland Re-Opening Schools guidance from Department of Education states,**

*"Public Health guidance with respect to social distancing of 2 metres will remain in place between adults and as far as possible between adults and pupils. Schools should endeavour strenuously to implement as much social distancing as is practical where physical capacity and curriculum delivery permit"*

It also states that,

*"Children will not sit facing each other where possible and seating plans can be used to aid contact tracing in the event of a positive Covid-19 case"*

And,

*"for younger pupils, whilst not a requirement, social distancing should be encouraged and facilitated where practicable as part of other mitigating measures"*

## **What does this mean for our school?**

At times during the day staff may choose to wear a face covering as it will not always be possible for adults to maintain 2 metres from pupils/other adults. Our lunchtime supervisor, Mrs McAllister will wear a face covering when inside the school building. This year we will have 28 pupils in P1-P4. Due to the size of the classroom pupils will have to sit opposite each other. Where possible staff will encourage pupils to maintain a social distance from each other.

We know that you might catch the virus from respiratory droplets when we sneeze or cough. So we are going to have to be very careful in order to stay safe in school.

## **Here is how we are planning to reduce the risk.....**

### **1) Use of social bubbles**

In order to reduce the risk of transmission between everyone in the school we will be using social bubbles. We will have 2 bubbles, P1-P4 and P5-P7. Pupils in each bubble will work, play and eat together.

Bubbles matter due to "track and trace". If someone gets sick and tests positive the whole bubble must go home and remain at home in isolation with their household for 14 days.

### **2) Equipment in the Classroom**

How we use equipment will also change. We have removed unnecessary items and materials that are difficult to clean. Each pupil will have their own tray. It will contain all of their personal equipment, books and resources. Anything that is shared will need to be quarantined for 72 hours after use.

### **3) Separated break and lunchtime play areas**

In order to keep our bubbles safe, we must ensure that children have minimal contact with other pupils in the school. During break and lunchtime P1-P4 pupils will play together in the front playground and P5-P7 in the back playground.

### **4) Dropping off /collecting children**

- Parents must maintain social distancing while waiting to collect their children
- Parents are not permitted through the school gate
- Children who have not been picked up will be brought to the assembly hall and will be spaced 2 metres apart while contact is made with parents for collection. Please do try to be prompt in picking up your child/children
- P1-P4 pupils should only enter the school building by the back door at Mrs McKeown's classroom or go straight into Mrs Burnside's mobile.
- P5-P7 pupils should only enter the school via the main door.

#### 5) Hand hygiene

Frequent hand washing can reduce risk of infection. Pupils will be asked to wash their hands on arrival to school, before and after break and lunch. All pupils will use the external hand sanitiser as they leave the school building at home time. Hand dryers will not be in use at school. Paper towels will be available for hand drying.

#### 6) Respiratory Hygiene (Catch It-Bin It-Kill It)

Everyone should avoid touching their mouth, eyes and nose. They should cover the mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when they cough or sneeze. Tissues should be placed in a bin and hands should be cleaned immediately with soap and water or hand sanitizer. If a tissue is not available people should sneeze into the crook of their elbow. Please discuss this with your child.

#### 7) Cleaning surfaces that are touched frequently

Teaching staff will regularly clean frequently touched surfaces: tables tops, door handles, electronic devices and light switches.

#### 8) Taking of pupils' temperature

The temperature of each pupil will be taken by their class teacher before break time each day.

School Dinners	<p>The dinner hall will be divided into two parts. Each bubble will remain in their part of the hall. We have been informed by School Meals that a hot meal will be available each day. However, there will only be one option.</p> <p>In some cases, our dinner supervisor will not be able to maintain 2 metre distance from pupils. For this reason, the dinner supervisor will be wearing a face covering. Please discuss this with your child.</p> <p>Pupils will all have the opportunity to use the toilet before entering the dinner hall. Please discuss with your child the importance of this. We will be discouraging going to the toilet during lunch as it will not be possible for staff to ensure supervised hand washing. (Unless child has medical reason to do so)</p> <p>Please complete a School Meals Payment sheet if you wish for your child to take dinner. The <b><u>correct change</u></b> and this tick sheet should be placed in a sealed envelope. Pupils will no longer queue up to give in their dinner money. Envelopes will be collected by the class teacher each Monday and given to Mrs Rainey.</p> <p>Parents will still be able to pay weekly with cash however; we are now providing the option for parents to pay monthly by cheque. It will not be possible for teaching staff to handle money. Therefore, if dinner money is not paid at the beginning of the week we will not be able to accommodate your child for dinners that week.</p>	<p>School Meals Payment sheets available on website under Parent Area tab</p> <p>September Menu has been added to website</p>
Absence Notes	Mrs Rainey will no longer issues school copies of absence notes. Absence notes can be returned to school via e-mail <a href="mailto:srobinson243@c2kni.net">srobinson243@c2kni.net</a> -	Available on the school

	<p>Titled: Name of Child - Absence note</p> <p>Or in a sealed envelope.</p>	<p>website to download and print under Parent Area tab.</p>
Contacting school	<p>To maintain 'protective bubbles', parents are NOT permitted to enter the school playground or building, except in exceptional, pre-arranged circumstances. A mask must be worn. If you wish to speak with a member of staff, please phone the office and leave a message. Due to the current circumstances this may take longer than usual but we will try to get back to you as soon as we can. Any urgent messages will be dealt with as promptly as we can.</p>	
Travelling to and from school	<p>The Department of Education has said that the school bus will run from Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. The Department of Education have asked that if possible children travelling on the bus wear a face mask and use hand sanitiser when getting on although neither are mandatory. Where possible children from the same family should sit together and apart from others.</p>	
PPE and Face Covering	<p>There is a clear distinction between PPE and face coverings. PPE will be used by staff for intimate care, during medical support (i.e. accidents or giving medicine) or when supporting a symptomatic pupil</p> <p>Face coverings will be optional for staff and pupils when in school. Staff must wear a face covering while in a meeting lasting more than 15 minutes</p> <p>We are happy for any pupil or member of staff to wear a face covering routinely during the school day. We trust that these masks will be appropriate (i.e. not offensive in design) and used safely.</p>	<p>Parental permission slip for wearing a face coverings available under Parent Area/ Covid 19 related documents</p>

	<p>So staff are aware that parents wish their child to wear a face covering please complete the attached permission slip. If staff notice your child is not wearing their face covering appropriately, they will make contact with you. This may be on their weekly bookmark.</p>	
Attendance	<p>As always, as far as possible, we want every pupil to attend school every day. However, <u>it is vitally important that you do not send your child to school if they are unwell</u> particularly with any symptoms similar to coronavirus symptoms. If a pupil comes to school with a temperature or cough - <b>we must treat it as a possible case of Covid-19</b>. This means that the pupil will need to be isolated, along with an adult in full PPE until they can be collected. It also triggers a deep clean of the school environment - which may delay the start of the following school day.</p> <p>Many childhood illnesses present with a fever. If your child has a temperature, cough or cold please do not send them in to school until they are well. If your child is unwell and has been given medicine to help with a temperature e.g. Calpol or Nurofen for children, please do not send them to school. Once the medicine has worn off and their temperature rises again (pupils' temperature will be taken before break time) we will have to treat it as a possible case of Covid 19, following the protocol outlined above.</p> <p>If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea, please do not send them to school until they have been clear of symptoms for 48 hours. If all parents follow this guidance we should be able to avoid the school having to close, either for an enhanced clean or because school staff have had to self-isolate.</p>	
Holiday List	Changes have been made to our school holiday list to accommodate the earlier start of the school term	Copy of update Holiday list is available on

		the school website
Savings	There will be NO collection of Savings. We will review this situation in January 2021	
Before leaving the house	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please check your child's temperature before leaving home.</li> <li>• Each child should wash their hands before leaving the house</li> </ul>	
School Assemblies	School Assemblies will take place online where possible	
Medicine	Staff will not be administering Ibuprofen or Paracetamol during school. Inhalers will be treated as per school policy.	

## Managing illness and confirmed/suspected cases of Covid-19

What parents should do if your child or a member of your household is displaying the following symptoms:

- A high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest/back (you do not need to measure your temperature); OR
- A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); OR
- A loss of or change in sense or taste

**DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD OR ANY SIBLINGS TO SCHOOL. EVERYONE MUST STAY AT HOME**



Arrange for a test for Covid-19: [www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test) or call 0300 303 2713



Inform the school of your concerns 02887759347. If we are unable to answer the phone, please leave a voicemail outlining that an e-mail has been sent to [srobinson243@c2kni.net](mailto:srobinson243@c2kni.net). Please title the e-mail **Urgent Covid 19 Test Result**

Please detail in the e-mail

- If it is a pupil or household member who is displaying symptoms
- When symptoms were first observed
- Test date
- Expected results date



When waiting for a test result	Receive test result			
<p>While waiting for your child's/your household member's test everyone in the household should stay at home.</p> <p>Inform the school via e-mail or phone.</p> <p>The bubble your child belongs in will remain in school.</p> <p>Can I call at school to pick up work for my child? No. Everyone in the house should stay at home.</p> <p>A deep clean of the school environment will be required. Please do inform the school immediately as our school cleaner works part time hours and arrangements will need to be put into place to have this done.</p> <p>If someone in your household is displaying COVID 19 symptoms or is awaiting a test result DO NOT send any other household members into school.</p> <p>If a staff member is informed that a member of their household is unwell and requires a test, they will have to leave school until a positive/negative result has been obtained. In such cases it may be necessary to contact parents</p>	<p>On receiving your result please make contact with the school immediately to inform us of the result. A register of possible/confirmed cases will be kept.</p>			
	Positive Test Result	Negative Test Result		
	<table><tr><td><u>Pupil:</u> Bubble sent home</td><td><u>Household member:</u> School informed. Pupil and household members stay at home. Bubble remains in school</td></tr></table>	<u>Pupil:</u> Bubble sent home	<u>Household member:</u> School informed. Pupil and household members stay at home. Bubble remains in school	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please forward a positive test result to the school immediately - in this case a class bubble will have to isolate at home and a deep clean will be undertaken</li><li>• If your child or anyone in the household receives a positive diagnosis for Covid-19, the person with symptoms will need to stay home for 10 days. Everyone in the household without symptoms will need to self-isolate for 14 days from the day the first person in the home started having symptoms. However, if someone else in the household begins to develop symptoms during this 14-day period, they will need to stay at home for at least 10 days from the day the symptoms started (regardless of what day you are on in the original 14 -day period)</li><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If your child/household member receives a negative diagnosis for Covid -19 your child/household member can stop self-isolating.</li></ul> <p>You need to keep self-isolating if someone in your household tests positive, or develops symptoms of Covid-19 and has not been tested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If your child member feels well enough, and has not had a raised temperature for more than 48 hours they may return to school. (If your child/household member still has a high temperature, they need to self-isolate until their temperature has returned to normal for 48 hours)</li></ul> <p>On return to school please ensure your child returns signed sheet "Test Confirmation". Until the school receives this, your child will not be able to return to school. Available on school website under Parent Area/Covid related documents.</p>		

When waiting for a test result	Positive Test Result	Negative Test Result
of a particular bubble to inform you that we are unable to staff that bubble for that particular day. Parents should have alternative arrangements in place which can be utilised at short notice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair of the Board of Governors will be notified and parents of the bubble informed to collect children.</li> </ul>	If your child/household member develops new or worsening symptoms, they should self-isolate and can arrange to be re-tested.

### **How will school communicate that a member or of my child's bubble has received at positive Covid-19 test result?**

A message will be sent via text message. This message will NOT come via the school website. This message will come via the school's computerised texting system. This method of messaging can only be viewed by parents, unlike the website which can be viewed by the general public.

**A TRIAL TEXT MESSAGE WILL BE SENT ON WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A MESSAGE PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY.**

### **When a bubble needs to go home**

Pupils will be lined up 2 metres apart in the front playground. Please stay in your car until your child is at the front of the queue or is approaching the school gate. This will be our procedure regardless of weather conditions, as transmission is significantly reduced when outside. The P1-P4 bubble will have 28 pupils in it. As our school is small, it would not be possible to socially distance and supervise pupils safely within the school. Please make sure your child brings a coat to school every day - even if it appears dry when they leave the house in the morning.

**It is vitally important that all contact details, especially emergency contact details are up to date. This is YOUR responsibility.**

### **What if a parent contacts the school during the school day to notify the school of a positive test?**

As soon as the school is aware that a positive test has been received by a pupil the staff will immediately begin informing parents. This may mean that you may need to collect your child during the school day. Please note this information will not be sent via the school website. It will be sent via the school computer system. You will receive this message via a text message. Therefore, please monitor your phone at frequent intervals throughout the day. If you are unable to access your mobile phone due to work commitments, please consider providing the school with a second mobile number.

**It is vitally important that all contact details, especially emergency contact details are up to date. This is YOUR responsibility. Please consider if you work during the school day. Have you made additional contacts aware that we may be communicating with them regarding this matter? Do you find your work takes you into areas with poor signal? What additional contacts have you provided the school with to compensate for this?**

Please do discuss the possibility of this situation happening with your child. We do not want pupils to panic.

### **Will any home learning be provided during this time?**

This will greatly depend on the health of the staff member and their personal circumstances at this time. We will monitor the frequency of isolation periods and adapt procedures accordingly.

## **What school will do if there is a suspected case in school?**

The protocols laid down in the DE guidance will be followed

School staff:

Any adult displaying symptoms will be removed from the classroom immediately and asked to go home, to refrain from attending school and to follow the Test and Trace and Protect strategy below.

Pupils:

Any pupils found to be displaying symptoms will be sent home immediately, by following the Covid-19 isolation procedure. Parents will be contacted immediately to collect their child and any additional siblings.

The children within that group will continue to attend school as their bubble until the outcomes of the individual's test result is known by the school.

Any pupil awaiting collection will be moved to a designated isolation room, and will remain under adult supervision. The school will fully document this process to ensure a record is held of who made the decision, who was contacted, who provided supervision and who picked up the pupil. PPE will be worn by staff caring for the pupil while they await collection.

The temperature of each pupil will be taken by their class teacher before breaktime each day. The procedure described above will be applied for any pupil who has a temperature above 37.8 °C

If the child is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk, staff will call 999 immediately.

**It is vitally important that all contact details, especially emergency contact details are up to date. This is YOUR responsibility.**



