### **QUEEN ELIZABETH II PRIMARY (Pomeroy) SCHOOL**



**Principal: Mrs S Robinson** 

3 Edendoit Road

Tel 028 87758548 Fax 028 87759347

Email srobinson243@c2kni.net

BEd(Hons), PQH (NI), MEd

Pomeroy Co.Tyrone BT70 2RW

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#### Dear Parents,

We hope you have all enjoyed a happy and healthy summer holiday and are ready to get back into the swing of the new school term next week.

Arrival to school/ Friday finish time	<ul> <li>Pupils may enter the school building from 8.45 am. Class teaching begins at 8.55a.m.</li> <li>We expect all pupils to be at their desk for 8.55 a.m.</li> <li>P1-P4 pupils should enter via either mobile or back of Mrs McKeown's classroom door</li> <li>P5-P7 pupils should enter via the main school door.</li> <li>School will continue to close at 2pm each Friday</li> </ul>
Covid 19 Prevention	<ul> <li>Pupils' temperatures will be taken before break time</li> <li>Children will be requested by staff to wash their hands regularly throughout the school day</li> <li>Teaching staff will regularly clean frequently touched surfaces: tables tops, door handles, electronic devices and light switches</li> <li>All staff are encouraged to self-administer an LFT test twice weekly</li> <li>Some of the principles of bubbles will continue, pupils entering via different doors, limited mixing indoors, assemblies will continue in classrooms, pupils will sit apart in dining hall. However, pupils will not be restricted from playing together outside due to Covid 19.</li> </ul>
How parents can help make school safe	<ul> <li>Promote compliance with COVID-19 guidance including in schools and on both public transport and dedicated school transport including explaining the importance of doing so to their child.</li> <li>Ensure compliance with PHA guidance of child isolating due to:         The child having COVID-19 symptoms, in which case parents should book a PCR test and support the child to isolate with close contacts of the child, following PHA protocols for self-isolation.     </li> <li>The child being identified as a close contact, either as a household member of a symptomatic or confirmed case, or as a close contact of a case not in their household.</li> </ul>

# The child having returned to Northern Ireland from another country and isolating in line with NI Direct Travel advice and regulations. Compliance \*\*\* Important information, taken straight from DE guidance\*\*\*\*\*

#### Non-Compliance with Contact Tracing Service

There may be some staff members and/or pupils, who do not comply with the public health guidance on COVID-19, including, choosing not to follow the advice to get tested or self-isolate. Equally, some SEN pupils may be physically unable to take a COVID-19 test.

Where it is clear to a Principal that such an individual has been:

- in a location that requires 10 days quarantine on return or,
- a close contact of a confirmed case; or,
- displaying clear COVID-19 symptoms;

in line with their general duty of care for all pupils and staff, the Principal should inform them that they cannot attend the school until the PHA processes for self-isolation have been completed and remind pupils and parents, of the pupil behaviour and the parental support required in line with the introduction section of this guidance. Where such an individual attends school, they should be quarantined in line with the above guidance on protective isolation and be sent home from the school.

If there is strong reason to believe that compliance with advice to get tested will not be taken, then the 10 -day self-isolation period should apply.

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 PHA guidance.

#### Pupils:

999 immediately.

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 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

	It is vitally important that all contact details, especially emergency contact details are up to date. This is YOUR responsibility.  ***** Staff will not be administrating Ibuprofen or Paracetamol during school.
School belongings	Pencil cases will remain in school. Please ensure your child has the following items in his/her pencil case for starting school: glue stick, at least 3 sharp pencils, rubber, sharpener, colouring pencils, ruler (KS2)
	School bags will be permitted. Pupils are not permitted to bring unnecessary items from home to school, for example football cards, toys, football gloves
Homework	Written homework will begin again. Pupils will be able to bring worksheets/books from home to school. Further information on homework expectations will be explained by each teacher.
Communication due to pupil absence	On too many occasions last year, pupils were absent from school and no effort to communicate with school was made. Staff were left unsure if the pupil was absent due to displaying COVID 19 symptoms or had been contact traced. This is an unfair pressure to place on the whole school community.
	If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, you must contact school either via phone or e-mail <a href="mailto:srobinson243@c2kni.net">srobinson243@c2kni.net</a> on the first morning of absence, to provide information in relation to the absence. You must also complete an 'Absence Note'. This can be found on the school website under the 'Parent tab'. This absence note can be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:srobinson243@c2kni.net">srobinson243@c2kni.net</a> or returned in an envelope with your child. Please note we will only accept absence notes completed on the preprint sheet provided on website.
	If your child returns to school without an absence note, or the detail contained is unclear, he/she will be placed in temporary isolation until the correction information is obtained.
Savings	Savings will begin again on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September. It is essential that blue slips are completed by parents and items are placed in either an envelope or freezer bag.

## \*\*\* Reminder - make sure you have downloaded the school website app and have allowed notifications\*\*\*\*

Public Health letters, outlining advice if a pupil has been identified as a close contact, may need to be issued to parents. This may be necessary when staff are isolating. To ensure this process can still take place please supply the school with one e-mail address per family, which you regularly use by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Names of pupil/s	E-mail address

We are hopeful that school is returning closer to some form of normality, whilst also remaining cautious to the risks that Covid-19 presents to us all.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday.

Mrs Robinson