

25/11/2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well and continuing to manage in these difficult times for everyone. It is three months since our last communication regarding our Covid restrictions and their impact on school and family life.

The school will continue to operate under Covid restrictions. The previous restrictions will remain in place, e.g. staggered start and finishing times, hand sanitizer, class bubbles, staggered breaks and lunches etc. We will keep these procedures under review and update them as required.

This decision has restricted the number of positive Covid cases in school and that has had an obvious benefit to every child’s learning opportunities.

One thing that I have noticed in the past week, is that a significant number of parents are not wearing facemasks in the school grounds, when collecting their children at home time. I appreciate that outside transmission rates are very low but please wear a mask on the school grounds.

Kind regards

C O’Neill

Principal

**REMINDER Start times and entrance/collection points –**

**Please be prompt to avoid crowding**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Teacher  |  | Class |   | Start Time  |  | Door  |  | Break  |  | Lunch  | Dismissal   |
| **P1 will have staggered start times and dates as previously published to New P1 parents in their INDUCTION PACK and will revert to the following timetable when advised to do so** |
| **Mrs McSorley** |   | P1A  |  | 9am  |  | Green | door  | 10.10 – 10:25 |  | 11:45- 12:30  | 2pm  |
| **Mrs F O’Reilly** (Miss Doherty) |  | P1B  |  | 9am  |  | Green d | oor  | 10.10 – 10:25 |  | 11:45- 12:30  | 2pm  |
| All P2 -P7 PUPILS  |
| **Mrs Beegan** |  | P2/3 |   | 9am  |  | Assembl Hall doo | y r  | 10.10 – 10:25 |  | 11:45- 12:30  | 2pm  |
| **Mrs Tunney**  |  | P2  |  | 9am  |  | Canopy  |  | 10.10 – 10:25 |  | 11:45- 12:30  | 2pm  |
| **Miss Hughes**  |  | P3  |  | 8:45am  |  | Canopy  |  | 10.10 – 10:25 |  | 11:45- 12:30  | 1:45pm  |
|   |
|  | **Mrs Coyle**  |  |  |  | **P4** |  |  |  | **9:00am** |  |  | **Canteen** |  |  | 10:30-10:45 |  |  | 12:35-1:05 |  | **3:00pm** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Mrs S O’Reilly** |  |  | **P4/5** |  |  | **8:45am** |  |  |  | **Canteen** |  |  | 10:30-10:45 |  |  | 12:35-1:05 |  | **2:45pm** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Mr Sherlock**  |  | P7 |  | 8.45am |   | Assembl Hall doo | y r  | 10:30-10:45 |  | 12:35-1:05 | 2.45pm  |
| **Mrs Orr** |   | P5  |  | 9am  |  | Annex  |  | 10:30-10:45 |  | 12:35-1:05 | 3pm  |
| **Miss McKeogh** |  | P6/7 |   | 8.45am |   | Annex  |  | 10:30-10:45 |  | 12:35-1:05 | 2.45pm  |
| **Mrs O’Neill**  |  | P6 |  | 8.45am |   | Annex  |  | 10:30-10:45 |  | 12:35-1:05 | 2.45pm  |

**Arrival (Map Attached)**

Our arrangements for arriving at school have changed significantly to allow staff to direct pupils swiftly and safely into the building.

I would ask parents to follow the following guidelines from Tuesday 31st ( except P1), as we will be operating with full classes at the staggered starting times.

**8:45 starting time**

**Children will not be permitted onto the school grounds before 8:35 for the 8:45 start time**

 **9:00am start**

**Children should not be in their line before 8:50 for the 9:00 start time.**

**I appreciate that some families have children in both staggered times, but if everyone can be sensible around this, then there will be no need to increase the staggered times.**

**There are specific lines for each year group for arrivals and dismissals.**

**The Church car park gate will not be accessible**



**Wet weather plan**

**On a very wet morning, we will continue to implement a staggered start via the access doors assigned to each class, but we will bring the children inside as they arrive to school as follows**

**8:45 am start**

**P3, P4/5, P6, p6/7 7 P7 please go straight to your class from 8:40 am**

**9:00am start**

* **P1A, P1B ,P2,P2/3, P4 & P5 will go to the school assembly hall and they will continue to social distance.**

Children must line up at the appointed entry/dismissal points. Staff will be on hand to assist.

All adults must abide by **2m social distancing** and we strongly encourage everyone to continue to **wear a face mask** while on the school grounds. Pupils will be directed to their specific entrance by staff (as outlined in the table above). **Once your child has left you, we would ask that you** exit **our grounds as quickly as possible. Parents do not need to stand outside the school gates as this causes congestion around the gates. Please use the school grounds to social distance.**

# Dismissal - (Map Attached)

Pupils will be dismissed through the door which they used to enter the building. You will be directed to your child’s pick up point, but should ensure that you continue to maintain social distancing and do not gather for longer than is necessary.

# Hygiene

Parents and carers should ensure that their children are able to wash their hands correctly for at least 20 seconds and that they are familiar with using hand sanitiser. Pupils should also be familiar with the need to cough into the crook of their arm and to sneeze into a tissue. Good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene will be key to supporting our efforts to keep your child safe. Please talk to your child about keeping their hands away from their nose and mouth.

**Pupils will be required to sanitise their hands on arrival and will be directed to also wash them with soap and water when they enter the classroom.**

**Touchpoints and classroom surfaces will be cleaned at specific points during the day. Your child will also be directed to wash their hands regularly.**

Please note that we will have liquid and gel sanitisers available. If your child benefits from the use of an emollient for skin conditions, they are very welcome to bring a supply into school for their personal use.

To ensure optimum hygiene levels, children will not be permitted to bring toys or comfort blankets to school. We have also removed soft toys, cushions, rugs and blankets from the classrooms as these items are difficult to clean.

# Underlying health conditions/allergies –

Please ensure that you update your child’s teacher with regard to any new or existing health conditions or allergies. Please also inform us if they have been unwell during July or August. Medications must be sent from the first day of attendance and paperwork must be completed by a parent before these can be administered. Please email Mrs Blaney (dblaney905@c2kni.net) if you require these forms. A child with allergies cannot attend dinners until their parent/guardian has met with the canteen manager and Mrs Blaney.

**Signs of Covid infection**

**Children who display flu symptoms, temperature or respiratory illness should be kept off school.**

**Delta variant symptoms – these include a headache, runny nose, sore throat, coughing and sneezing, vomiting or temperature.**

**Pupils should be tested for Covid if they display any of these symptoms and remain off school until a test result is confirmed.**

***Illness in school –***

***A pupil showing Covid symptoms must go to the isolation room. They will be supervised by Mr O’Neill or Mrs Blaney who will wear PPE. The room will be cleaned immediately after it is vacated.***

# Masks and PPE

Current guidance does not recommend that pupils wear masks in school. Parents who wish their child to wear a mask will be supported to do so (make sure your child knows how to put on and take off the mask correctly).

 **It is currently not a requirement for staff to wear masks or visors in class, but staff will wear masks when travelling around the school and in communal areas.**

# Track and Trace

Staff and families are encouraged to download the StopCovid19 app which is designed to monitor the possible spread of the virus.

# Visitors

Adults who enter our building will be required to fill in a health questionnaire, get their temperature taken and wear a mask (excluding those who have a medical condition) and contact details given to allow us to trace possible contacts should anyone within the building receive a positive test result.

# Break and lunch arrangements

Pupils will eat their break and be assigned a playtime which ensures that they remain within their bubble. Lunches will be eaten in the classrooms to ensure that each bubble also remains intact. **The P1 and P2 snack will not be provided by the school.**

**Packed Lunch**

All pupils will be required to bring a healthy break and water bottle along with a packed lunch daily until further notice.

***School Meals*** *will be available from the 1st September. Please provide a packed lunch for the 31st August.*

Please ensure that your child understands that they must not share food items and ensure that children practice opening their bottle lids and yogurt pots and packaging to enable them to do this independently in class.

# First Aid

Our procedures for administrating First Aid have been updated to take into account the possible breach of adult to child distancing. First Aiders will wear PPE to attend to pupils who are ill or who require first aid. If you are contacted to remove your child due to an accident or illness, please ensure that you attend school as soon as possible.

Pupils who become ill with symptoms of Covid 19 will immediately be removed from their class and put in our isolation room with a supervising adult wearing PPE. Parents will be contacted to collect them from school to enable testing to be carried out. Pupils who test positive must stay at home for 10 days, if a pupil test negative they can return to school. At this stage the school will inform the PHA.

# Cleaning

Pupils will be taught to be self-sufficient in maintaining a hygienic working space. An hourly cleaning rota will be in operation for all key contact surfaces, all toilet facilities, daily cleaning and a weekly deep clean.

# Pupils with CA support

A risk assessment must be carried out by school should an adult be required to breach the 2m distance to support any pupil. This will also be the case for the pupil should they have an underlying health condition. All staff will use appropriate PPE when in close contact with a child.

# Parent/Carers responsibility

Please support us in providing a safe and nurturing environment by ensuring the following:

1. Pupils showing any symptoms associated with Covid 19 MUST REMAIN AT HOME. Should pupils arrive displaying symptoms they will not be permitted to enter their class and will be required to return home. Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for your child’s parents and carers.
2. Pupils who are unwell (not Covid related) should also stay at home as any illness or infections that enter the school will only lead to further disruption.
3. **Please note that parents and visitors will not be permitted to enter the building without a prior arranged appointment.**
4. All communication with school should now be via telephone or Seesaw as much as possible.
5. **Travelling from a quarantined Travel Corridor –** in line with the NI Executive Guidance materials the following travel advice will also be applied, if a family have travelled to another country outside of those permitted by the NIE, exclusions will apply.