**New School Day Guidance**

***(Based on DE Guidance –August 2020 and adapted for our school.)***

Children and staff should not attend school if they display any symptoms of the virus; new continuous cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell.

Social Distancing:

We will be operating a “Protective Bubble” system. The full class (approximately 30 pupils) plus the class teacher, and in most cases a classroom assistant will form this bubble. There will be minimal interaction with staff or pupils who are not part of this bubble. There will be defined areas for classes in the dinner hall and playground. Children will go straight to their classroom when they arrive in school. Particular arrangements will be put in place for children who need extra help settling in school or for pupils with additional or complex needs. Pupils will be assigned seats in their classrooms, as far as possible facing forward. Non-essential furniture will be removed to maximise space.

Adults should remain 2 metres apart.

Staff numbers limited in staffroom and social distancing must be observed. Staggered breaks will help facilitate this.

Parents should not congregate outside the school. They should maintain a 2m social distance from each other. They should not enter the school building unless required.

To ensure bubbles remain consistent there will be no morning or after school clubs in the Autumn term. This will remain under review.

Extended Schools funding will assist children at risk of underachievement by providing additional hours for classroom assistants to support these children within classroom.

Ventilation will be encouraged throughout the school building.

Hygiene and Physical Protection:

Children should know how to wash their hands properly. Staff and children will wash their hands when they arrive in school and regularly throughout the school day. Hand sanitiser will be available in all classrooms.

Proper use of tissues will be encouraged – *catch it, bin it, kill it,* message will be reinforced.

Where possible a clean uniform is encouraged each day.

There will be a thorough clean each day after school. In addition to this there will be regular cleaning throughout the school day of frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The dining hall surfaces will be wiped down and disinfected between each sitting.

PPE will only be worn in a small number of cases (for intimate care, giving medication or when an adult is staying with a child who is displaying symptoms). Catering staff should wear PPE as they will be serving all pupils.

Face coverings should be worn by adults visiting the school and during prolonged adult to adult meetings.

School Transport:

School transport should only be used when no alternative is available. Parents are responsible for assessing risk for their child using school transport and making decisions accordingly.

Face coverings are strongly recommended for all pupils using school buses.

Children should wash their hands before they leave home and when they arrive in school.

Children should sit beside their siblings or beside someone from their class bubble if possible.

School Meals Catering Service:

There will be staggered break and lunch times.

Children will remain with their class bubble during break and lunch times and be physically distanced from other pupils. Children taking lunches and children taking dinners will sit together in class groups.

The assembly hall and dining hall will both be used for dinners.

We will be operating a cashless system for dinner payment.

Fruit and water will be provided for all pupils at break time therefore break time snacks do not need to be taken from home. Disposable water bottles would be useful for children taking packed lunches.

Curriculum Delivery:

We aim to have as full a delivery as possible of Northern Ireland Curriculum.

Younger children will continue to have play based learning while older pupils will have practical, experiential learning.

Most PE lessons will have to take place outside due to use of hall for dining purposes.

Remote or blended learning will be made available in the event of a class or school closure. It will also be available to those pupils who cannot attend school on medical advice.

Workforce:

Clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable staff should take extra care. If possible they should work from home. If unable to work from home 2m social distance should be maintained. An individual may choose to take on a role that does not allow for this distance if they prefer to do so.

Risk Assessments should be carried out for staff and pupils who are clinically vulnerable or who live with someone who is clinically vulnerable. This includes pregnant members of staff.

All staff and pupils must follow this guidance:

* If you have symptoms of coronavirus or a positive test, you will need to stay at home for at least 10 days:
* If you live with someone who has symptoms or a positive test, you will need to stay at home for 14 days from the first day the person in the home started having symptoms;

Likewise, if staff or pupils who have been in the same bubble as anyone who has tested positive must follow PHA guidance and self-isolate and undertake a test under the Test and Trace and Protect system. They can return to school when they have had a negative test result or undertaken the necessary period of isolation after a positive test result.

All staff should download the StopCovid NI Proximity App.

Pupil Attendance:

Pupils who are clinically vulnerable should follow medical advice. If advised not to attend school evidence of this should be provided to the school.

If a child lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable, parents should seek advice from Hospital Consultant for the clinically vulnerable person. If the child is returning to school a risk assessment will be required.

People Who Become Symptomatic Onsite:

If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a high temperature/fever or anosmia, they and any members of their household must be sent home. Records will be kept of this.

A child with symptoms waiting to be collected will be kept in SEN room with appropriate adult supervision. The adult should wear PPE. The window of the room should be kept open. If possible 2m social distance should be maintained. If the child needs a toilet while waiting the disabled toilet should be used and cleaned/disinfected immediately afterwards. The SEN room and child’s classroom will require a deep clean.

The child or adult can return to school when they have had a negative test result or undertaken the necessary period of isolation after a positive test result.

Communication:

Effective two-way communication between parents and school is vital. School will endeavour to keep parents up to date. Please ensure new school app is downloaded. Parents should let the school know if their child has symptoms or is tested and the outcome of the test.

Parents should contact the school by email or telephone when necessary. Parents should not enter the school building unless requested to do so.

It is important that we seek views of pupils on new arrangements.

**New Arrangements**

These arrangements are all being put in place for the month of September. They will then be reviewed and may change.

All children are back full time from Tuesday 1st September.

Children and staff should not attend school if they display any symptoms of the virus;a new continuous cough or a high temperature/fever or loss of smell or taste. It is a parent’s responsibility to assess child’s health and not send a child to school if they are displaying any symptoms.

In line with current NI Executive guidance a 14 day quarantine period is required for all children returning from Spain, France, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Turks & Caicos and Aruba. Therefore, they should not attend school during this period. This guidance may change to include other countries. Please follow PHA guidance.

**Staggered Drop Off and Collection Times**

Children are not allowed to wait in playground before school. All children enter and exit by their classroom door only.

Parents/Carers should observe social distancing while waiting for their child.

Pupils can arrive into class from 8.45am -9.15am.

P1-P3 children will leave between 1.45pm and 2.15pm.

P4-P7 will leave school between 2.45pm and 3.15pm.

There will be no morning or after school clubs or activities for the Autumn term.

**Break Time**

Fruit will be provided for all pupils - £1 per child per week payable through school app.

10.30-10.45 – P1/2

10.45-11.00 – P3/4

11.00 – 11.15 P5,6,7 (P7 will be facilitated in the parent car park to ensure social distancing)

**Lunch Time**

11.40-12.10 (+15minutes outside play) – P1 and P2 – P1 in dining hall and P2 in assembly hall.

12.20-12.50 (+ 15minutes outside play) – P3 and P4 – P3 in dining hall and P4 in assembly hall.

1pm-1.30pm (+ 15 minutes outside play)– P5 in dining hall, P6 in assembly hall, P7 outside to play first and they come in when P5 leave and area has been cleaned.

Lunch should be brought to school in a disposable bag.

**Homework/School Bags**

In September homework may include Mathletics, Accelerated Reader, ICT and online activities set by the teacher.

Children will bring nothing from school or into school for the month of September. This means there will be no reading books, homework books, pencil cases, school bags, lunch bags (disposable bags only) coming in and out of school.