

**Loanhead Primary School**

**Head Teacher: Mrs Amanda Milne (Acting)**

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Dear Parent/ Carer

Following the recent letter from the Head of Education in regard to pupil return in August, and her subsequent communication in regards to the return of all schools in the authority, we are pleased to share our proposed model with you in this communication. We ask at this stage that all parents and carers please understand that the model is still subject to national ratification next week but has been approved by East Ayrshire Education Service in this interim stage.

Firstly, can we thank you for your amazing work with our young people during this period of lockdown, and we are delighted to be sharing our plans for welcoming them back to school on a part-time basis as per national guidance. In reaching our model, we too have considered the safety and wellbeing of our young people, staff and their families as we are so aware that this will be your prime concern.

In regard specifically to our school, please find the model undernoted:-

**Monday and Tuesday – P1 – P7 cohort a (half classes), 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Wednesday – ASN children who require support, agreed at a Team Around the Child meeting first, 9a.m. – 11:45a.m. 11:45 onwards – staff planning and preparation.**

**Thursday and Friday – P1 – P7 cohort b (half classes), 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**We are finalising the communication to let you know which cohort your child will be in. I anticipate that this will be with you by the middle of week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020.**

In addition to attendance patterns, we also know that parents and carers will have many questions, and we hope that some of these may be answered in the statements below, specific to our school:

Buses

- Buses will be socially distanced and sanitised between journeys – Buses will arrive at Loanhead Dick Road at 8:40 and leave promptly at 8:50a.m.
- Please drop off your child and then leave immediately to avoid congestion and to allow for safe distancing.
- Children will be asked to wash their hands on coming off the buses
- Siblings will be on the same bus together to help with bus capacity and bubbles.
- At the end of the day when children get off the bus we would ask that you stand on the grassed area at Dick Road and come forward when your family name is called.

The Building

- Children will attend in groups created by siblings, location and social groupings.
- There will be no parental entry into the building to reduce footfall.
- Additional handwashing will take place and hand sanitiser will be available.
- The teachers will be working in three distinct pod areas to allow for limited crossover.
- Your child will have someone that they are friends with in their cohort and we would appreciate it if you could reassure them of this.

- A thinglink virtual tour will be available on the blog to allow the children to see the rooms set out before they come to school. This will be available by the end of July onwards.

#### Snacks, Lunches and Breaks

- School lunches are available and of a high quality, made onsite by our own catering team.
- Please send a snack to school as there is no catered snacks in a tuckshop available at this time.
- Breaks will be staggered to allow zoning in the playground area and will be supervised.
- Play equipment will be cleaned before reuse.

#### Resources and Materials

- We will provide all equipment your child will require in school so there will be no need to send pencil cases etc. Please keep these at home for use there for blended learning.
- On days where the children have PE, they may wear jogging bottoms/leggings to school as this will take place where possible outside.
- Materials for blended learning will be sent home with your child in a poly wallet and will include a small element of online work with follow up work materials.
- Teams was set up quickly for use this session but we will be revising this over the summer into developing a consistent platform for some of the home learning that will take place.

We are also very aware that the proposed part-time pattern will not meet the needs of everyone, and we ask you to bear with us as we answer queries specific to individual family circumstances. A position has not yet been reached by the Scottish Government in regards to the provision of childcare for keyworkers for August, we therefore ask for your understanding that we cannot answer any questions on this matter until the position is declared nationally. Can we ask for your co-operation in bearing with us next week as we work our way through a likely increase in parental communications, and please also bear in mind that we may be welcoming young people back to school for induction at this time.

Information on emergency childcare over summer holidays has already been sent to all parents and carers who have been accessing this from March, as this childcare will change over the summer break, and parents will require to re-register for the new service.

Please look out for further information coming out as we move towards the new session.

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Milne

Head Teacher (Acting)