



JAMES HAMILTON PRIMARY SCHOOL & SGOIL NA COILLE NUAIDH

We are so excited to welcome you all back to session 2021/22 at James Hamilton PS & Sgoil na Coille Nuaidh!

I hope that you have had an enjoyable and rested Summer Break and are all looking forward to the return to school by pupils on Thursday 19th August 2021 for the new session. Please find below some useful information regarding the new session:

Start for Pupils

Pupils in Primary 1 should have already received information regarding their start times for the first few days of term. You can also find information on our School GLOW Blog on the internet.

Thursday	Friday
P1a 9.15-1.45	P1a 9.15-1.45
P1b 9.20-1.45	P1b 9.15-1.45
P1c 9.25-1.45	P1c 9.15-1.45
P1G 9.30-1.45	P1G 9.15-1.45

P1 pupils will attend full days as of Monday 23rd August. P1a, b, c are 9.10-3.10 and P1G 8.50-2.50.

Primary 2 – 7

Pupils should enter the playground no earlier than 8:45a.m. when the playground is staffed. There is no supervision in the playground until this time.

Please ensure that your child enters the playground no earlier than 10 minutes before their start time (8.50 starts can only enter 5 minutes before start time due to playground supervision).

Start/Finish Times	Stages
8.50-2.50	Gaelic, P2, P7
9-3	P4, P6
9.10-3.10	P1, P3, P5

Following the guidance issued by the government and communicated to you by East Ayrshire Council we would ask that parents/carers please do not enter the playground when dropping off children. Face coverings should be worn and social distancing observed at both drop off and collection times. Please only enter the playground to collect your child 5 minutes before their collection time to minimise the numbers of adults in the playground.

Doors

You will find coloured markings on each of our entry/exit doors. These correspond to the doors each stage should use to enter and exit the school building.

Red	P5, P7
Blue	P3, P6
Green	Gaelic, P4, P5
Own classroom door	P1a,b,c & P2a,b

Uniform

We hold high expectations in regard to school uniform and the positive impact this can have on learning, pride and ownership of our school by the children. Pupils will be expected to wear uniform every day unless we arrange a publicised non-uniform day.

Uniform:

- white polo shirt,

- white shirt and tie,
- navy cardigan/jumper/sweatshirt
- grey trousers/skirts/pinafores or JHPS & SnCN navy & white tartan kilts/skirts/pinafores.

Pre COVID we would keep shorts and shoes in school for the children to change into. However, one of the mitigations that we have found generally helpful for both staff and parents is the wearing of jogging bottoms/shorts/leggings on PE days. This has helped parents know when items are getting too small and have allowed for regular washing whilst helping keep the classrooms clear and allowing more space. Having heard from a number of parents we have decided to continue with wearing these items on PE days. Therefore:

PE Uniform:

white polo shirts

navy cardigan/jumpers/sweatshirts

tracksuit trousers, shorts or leggings.

Please note full gym outfits, crop tops and hoodies are apparel for home and sports clubs and *should not be worn on PE days*.

We aim to inform you of set PE days by Friday in preparation for our first full week in school.

School Lunches and Packed Lunches

We are extremely fortunate in our school dinner provision and our catering staff provide delicious meals in accordance with the EAC rotation of meals. Details of the meals can be found on the school app for each day and we would encourage you to discuss with your child what they would like to eat at lunch. We would encourage everyone to try the school lunches. We feel it is more beneficial for pupils to stay in school at lunchtime to develop social relationships with their peers, rather than going home as this can cause more upset when separating from parents in the middle of the day on their return.

As a cashless school, we use ParentPay as a way to pay for school meals and other school expenses. Your ParentPay account will continue to roll on with your children. If however you have recently joined the school or are a P1 parent without other siblings in school you will get a letter detailing how to get set up. Parents in P1 with other siblings will be able to add their P1 to their original account already in use. Those entitled to free school meals through the school meals and clothing grant will have their children's account credited automatically. Please make sure that if you require free school meals and clothing grants you should check out the EAC website where you will be able to fill in the appropriate form.

School Bags, Snack, and Water Bottles

Children are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to school and a small snack for break time. There is a drinking water tap in every classroom where bottles can be refilled as necessary. As a health promoting school, we would ask that water bottles only contain water and not juice. Children are discouraged from bringing additional items from home in school bags as all educational materials are provided to them individually. Toys, trading cards and items like these cause upset and arguments when lost or traded in the playground and we would encourage children to do this with their friends at home instead. Footballs should not be brought in from home as each class will be given their own football to use at break and lunch times.

Breakfast Club

I know that many parents/carers see this as a valuable service and are desperate for this to be up and running again. I am currently in a planning stage of how we can adapt the previous way we ran Breakfast Club to still comply with COVID restrictions that are still in place in schools. I will communicate with you as soon as we have firm plans in place but we are still a number of weeks away so please make other arrangements in the meantime.

Data Check forms and Photographic Consent

On return to school the pupils will receive their annual data check forms, parental consent form, internet consent form and information to be signed and returned in the envelope provided by school. We would ask that these be returned no later than Thursday 26th August to allow staff to collate and update information. Please check these carefully and make any amendments that are necessary e.g. change of mobile number, add email address etc. before signing on all signature lines. Please check each letter returned off on the sticker on the back of the envelope. Photographic consent will be sent out via the app as a link to a FORMS to be completed. This is a change to the paper copy that we did previously. This is being rolled out across the authority.

If there is any other information that you require about your personal circumstances please contact us at the school on 01563 558505.

I look forward to leading our school community into Session 21/22.



Mrs Lynsey Abercrombie
Head Teacher (Acting)