



# Parental Information and Update

## 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer

As you may be aware, at the First Minister's last announcement around ten days ago an updating of guidance was shared. This national guidance has now been taken at East Renfrewshire Authority level and shared with all our establishments, including myself. During this week, I have had further dialogue with colleagues within East Renfrewshire Authority regarding our shared Covid-19 health & safety guidance and I therefore wanted to share another update with you.

Greater mixing of children across our year groups or 'stages' is now permitted indoors. This is welcome news and will allow us to gradually return to periodic, cross-class learning activities which we know will enhance our children's experiences. We will however remain very mindful of the transmissibility of the Covid-19 Omicron Virus, so this will not be wholesale mixing across the school straight away.

We are now permitted to re-introduce assemblies which is also good news. This will not be at a whole school basis to begin with; we will aim to build this up from smaller assemblies in the coming weeks.

As you will be aware, the First Minister indicated that compulsory mask wearing in communal public spaces will stop in Scotland later in March 2022. In Primary Schools, and as opposed to High Schools, our staff have never been required to wear masks in our classrooms/ learning areas, but rather in 'communal' school areas such as corridors. Staff are also now permitted to take off their masks during the start and end of day processes near the front gates, alongside our families now not needing to wear masks on Academy Road, as previously shared.

I have been speaking with our Parent Council over the last few days regarding other changes. We can now plan for after-school discos and I would like to thank the Parent Council in advance for the preparations that have begun to try to get this moving quickly. Additionally, small-scale Parent Council meetings are now allowed inside the school building and the Parent Council are considering how best to take this forward.

East Renfrewshire have again confirmed for me this week that we cannot yet have parents back into our playground 'on mass', at either the start or end of day. I share the hope that this will change soon.

Alongside all of these changes, we are beginning to consider what we may be able to plan for during the summer term, including taking into account the hope that parents may be able to get back onto the school premises properly during this time. As always, I will keep you updated as soon as I get further clarity.



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I would like to thank you all again for your continued support, care and mutual respect for one another. We do understand what a challenging time this remains for our whole school community. Should you need to speak with us, please do not feel that any matter is too small, either in making contact through the school office or in asking 'across the railings' at the start or end of day with one of the Senior Leadership Team, who are always there.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Lawson'.

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher