

Return to School P4-7



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well during this period of online learning. I would like to thank you for the support you are providing at home for your child to continue learning. I know this is a difficult time for everyone and each family will be experiencing different situations and balancing many different things. I appreciate the efforts you are demonstrating to keep engaged with school and for your child to continue to learn. Thank you!

You'll have heard in the news that the Scottish Government announced that P4-7 children would possibly be returning to school. I am now in a position to give some more detailed information relating to the proposed return to school for Primary 4, 5, 6 and 7 children. **This information has been confirmed by the Scottish Government and children will return on Monday 15th March.**

Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services issued a message on the Fife Council Facebook page with an update for parents outlining some details of the proposed return to school for some children when nursery - P3 children returned and this message is on our Facebook page. Parents also received a letter from Carrie Lindsay on 08/03/21 outlining some of the safety aspects regarding returning to school. In this newsletter there are further details regarding how this will look at St Ninian's RC and the updated measures in place to follow and keep everyone safe.

Risk Assessment



A risk assessment has now been updated for St Ninian's and all staff have undertaken recent training in preparation for returning to school. Please can you discuss with your child the ongoing need to use hand sanitiser on entry/exit from class and the need to stay in a class bubble to keep them safe.

Arrangements for Returning



I have indicated below a number of measures that will be in place that relate specifically to routines and arrangements for children when they return to school that I thought would be helpful for you to know. These arrangements are to keep staff and children safe. Please discuss these with your child so they are prepared for the changes when they arrive back at school, as school will continue to be different.

Arrival and Departure



There will be a staggered arrival and finish at the end of the day in order to ease the congestion on Derran Drive at these times. There will be no access for vehicles, except our neighbours who live in the houses opposite the school. The road will be closed at the school bus area so you are encouraged to park further away and walk to the school. Please ensure you adhere to the time slots so as to ease social congestion and not linger on Derran Drive unnecessarily. Members of the same family will have the same arrival and exit time. Please ensure you and your child social distance from other families in the sibling line. This is for Track and Trace purposes if required. Single children will have a class time slot.

8:50 and 2:50 - P7

8:52 and 2:52 - P5/6

8:54 and 2:54 - P4/5

9:00 and 3:00 - Siblings (Please ensure you social distance from other families)

9:04 - and 3:04 - P3/4

9:06 and 3:06 - P2/3

9:08 and 3:08 - P1

9:10 and 3:10 - Nursery

All children will enter the school from Derran Drive where you are asked to **maintain 2M distancing outside the school**, the class teacher will come out to the gate to bring the class in via the class allocated door. Once inside the building children go into their class and place coats on the back of the chair.

Primary 7 and Primary 5/6 will enter and leave through the main front door. P4/5 will enter and leave through the side door nearest the car park as they previously did prior to school closure. Staff will be outside to guide pupils in.

If you choose to put your child on the service bus, **I would like to remind parents that the school is not responsible for children on the school bus and it is parental responsibility.** The bus is currently running the service as usual. All children using the bus must wear a face covering unless medically exempt.

Lunches



There will be a change to lunches as we need to alter the number of children in the dining hall. P4-7 children will eat in their classroom with food being delivered to the classroom door. After eating, the room will be cleaned and ready for the afternoon session. Those in receipt of free school meals will automatically be provided with a lunch unless they wish to have their own lunch brought from home. Lunch times will be as follows:

P3/4 - 12:55 - 1:45

P4/5 - 12:25 - 1:15

P5/6 - 12:45 - 1:35

P7 - 12:55 - 1:45

Please note that any payment of meals to families will stop from Monday 15th March as children will receive a school meal in school.

Milk



Milk will still be provided through the school. This can be ordered and paid for via ipay as there will be no cash handling of money within the school. The milk will be delivered to the classroom door.

Children should bring a water bottle to school daily which is filled at home. This will be sent home at the end of each day. Access to water will be available via classroom sinks. Children may also want to bring a snack for break time and a home pack lunch where required. All tools for learning in school will be provided for children's personal use. These will be stored in their own trays.

Break Times



Each area of the playground has now been zoned so that each class has their own area to use for Outdoor Learning, playtime and lunch time. Playtime and lunches will be staggered slightly to ensure there is enough space for the children to play and adhere to distancing guidance to keep each class bubble separate from another class bubble. Two classes will use the bottom playground. Two classes will use the top playground where the gate is to enter the playground and this will be divided between Primary 3/4 and P4/5. The area that is the car park will not be used as a car park but will be used as the playground for P5/6 children and the area at the front of the school will be for P7 children. There will be two break times: 10.25 - 10.40 or 10.50 - 11.05.

Toilets



For every toilet open the next cubicle will be closed. Maximum occupancy will apply to each set of toilets and there will be communication between classes when toilets are in use so that bubbles do not mix.

School Uniform



When the children return to school we would expect them to wear our school uniform. Our school colours are red and black. If you do require new uniforms these can be purchased from www.myclothing.com

PE KIT



Health and Wellbeing activities in school will focus on social and emotional wellbeing and physical activity will take place outdoors. Children can wear PE kit to school on the days when they have PE so they do not need to change. The children will engage in lots of outdoor learning as part of Natural Connections Outdoor programme but will not require a change of clothes for this. **Children should come appropriately dressed for the weather, this includes a waterproof jacket should it rain.** Please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor clothing as we plan to follow guidance and learn outdoors as much as possible.

Breakfast Club



At the moment the Breakfast Club at St Ninian's will not be up and running for Monday 15th March. The most recent communications are that this may start after the Easter holidays. When there is an update from the service then information will be issued.

Staffing Update



There have been some staffing changes that I would like to let you know about. It is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to Miss Angela Mitchell who has been a Pupil Support Assistant at St Ninian's for 19 years. I'd like to congratulate Miss Mitchell on securing an Early Years Officer post with Fife Council which she has already settled in to but with sadness as she is not part of St Ninian's. I'd like to thank Miss Mitchell for all the years of dedication to St Ninian's. She will be very much missed within the school but I'm sure she will now enjoy working part time at her new post and they are very lucky to have her as part of their team.

On behalf of everyone at St Ninian's, I would like to thank Miss Mitchell for all she has achieved for our children and wish her the best of luck on the next step of her journey.

In the nursery, we welcome back Mrs Amy Tildesley, who previously worked in our school in the nursery last year and has also worked in Primary 1. Mrs Tildesley will be with us until June 2021 and it is wonderful that she is back with us in the nursery.

Communication



As with previous updates if you have questions, queries or concerns about any of the information included please get in touch and let us know through stniniansrcps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk or facebook St Ninian's RCPS and Nursery

Kind Regards,

Shona Gorman



St Ninian's



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