



Ibrog Primary School and Nursery Class
46 Hinshelwood Drive
Glasgow
G51 2XP

Tel: 0141 427 0922

Fax: 0141 556 4628

Email: headteacher@ibrog-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

**Acting Head Teacher
Michelle Parker**

22nd June, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers ,

I can hardly believe I am now writing the final letter of the year for you! What a quick and very strange time it's been! We have missed seeing our Ibrox families, but have been grateful for the opportunity to chat with you all over the phone, and hear about your experiences during our time apart.

As you know, the staff have been in the school building over the last few weeks preparing for starting back in August. We have made plans, but as you are no doubt aware, these can change at short notice, and so I would encourage you to make sure that you continue to check the school's communication tools over the summer. We will inform you of any significant changes through these channels.

Our current plans for return are as follows:-

- **When will my child be in school?**
Children will initially be in school for 2 days per week – Monday/Tuesday or Thursday Friday, with the classrooms and communal areas being cleaned on a Wednesday. They will be starting in smaller groups, which we have called recovery groups. Your child has been allocated to a group and should be familiar with the letter and number associated with that group eg A1 (see letter received with report) This group may have a different teacher from their class group, into which they will return when we are told it is safe to do so.
- **What time will they start and finish each day?**
The recovery groups will start and finish at different times. This is so that we don't have all the children arriving or leaving at the same time, and will help us to ensure physical distancing as much as possible. **Please check carefully on your letter to check what time they start, and finish each day.**
Children in groups beginning with
 - letter A start at 8:45am and finish at 3:00pm,
 - group B start at 9:00am and finish at 3:15pm
 - group C start at 9:15am and finish at 3:30pm
- **What happens when I bring my child to school?**
When you arrive at school you should wait outside the school gate. There will be signs to remind you about appropriate physical distancing. At your child's start time, a member of the management team will call for your child's group to enter the playground and line up with their teacher, maintaining a safe distance. They will then enter the building to go to their class.
- **What can my child bring to school?**
Your child should **NOT** bring a bag to school. All the equipment that they require, pencils, jotters, rulers etc will be provided in an individual pack for their use only. They can bring a full bottle of water, but they will be unable to fill it from the water cooler.
- **What about lunches?**
If your child is in receipt of a free school meal, then a packed lunch will be provided for them. If your child usually pays for a school lunch, then they will need to bring a packed lunch with them. This is due to all school canteens operating a cashless system. If possible, packed lunches should be brought in a bag that can be put in the bin after.
- **What about uniform?**
Children should wear the school colours, and clothes should be washed regularly. With this in mind, items such as ties and blazers should not be worn....we would recommend polo shirts and jogging bottoms for ease of wear and washing. However, we do recognise that the first day back to school is often a chance for photos to be taken and many families may wish to wear a shirt and tie on this occasion. Please limit this to the first day.

- **What are you doing to keep my child safe in school?**

The children have been organised into small recovery groups which have no more than 11 children in them. This allows us to organise the classrooms taking account of the 2m physical distancing guidance. Once in school, the children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day. There are sinks in almost all classrooms, and hand sanitizer will also be available throughout the building. We have also received and adapted a risk assessment from Glasgow City Council which outlines the strategies and procedures in place across our school. We are currently working on creating smaller 'safety plan' documents which we hope to share with you soon. Break and lunch times will also be staggered across the day so that all children are not out in the playground at the same time. The playground will be organised into zones so that children do not mix with children from other recovery groups. We understand that this might sound extreme, and we hope that this will not need to be kept in place for long.

- **How will the learning be different?**

With the children attending for a reduced amount of time, we will be focusing on learning in Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy. Other areas of the curriculum will also be covered. You may have heard the phrase 'blended learning' being used to describe this new way of working. This simply means that the children will be blending their work at school with work at home. There will be literacy and numeracy tasks given to do at home which will help to consolidate the learning in school, as well as tasks in other areas of the curriculum, including Health and Wellbeing. There will be tasks identified that we expect the children to complete and return to school. We are also aware that many of you have expressed concern about online learning. The main tasks that we expect the children to complete and return will not rely on access to technology. However, there will be the opportunity to use technology for some tasks if you are able, but this is not essential. Please be aware that teachers will be unable to provide support to children learning at home as they will be teaching another group on the days your child is home learning.

We are aware that this is a lot of information to take on board. Mrs Chalmers has also created a short video which gives the 'edited highlights.' Information regarding the link for this will be available on our school Twitter @IbroxPS and also our school app from Monday. If you have any questions or concerns related to any of this information please use the contacts section on the app to send an e-mail, or the survey section to leave a comment. Surveys can be accessed from the home page by clicking on the 3 lines at the top left of the home page.

Staffing

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to give you an update to our staffing for the new session. We will be saying good bye to Miss Muir, who has been working with Mrs Thomson in Primary 4. She has successfully completed her probationary year, and has secured a job in a school in Mexico. We would like to thank her for all her hard work over the last session and wish her every success in her new school!

We will also be welcoming some new members of staff to our Ibrox family. Ms Higgins and Miss Lewis will be joining us as probationers and they will be working alongside Mrs Thomson and Miss Gibney. We are sure that you will give them a warm Ibrox welcome as they join our team for the coming session. We also welcome Miss Gemmell, who is joining us from another Glasgow school. She is covering the vacancy left by Mrs McEwan while she takes up the acting Depute Head post at Pirie Park. We are also pleased that Miss Masters will be staying with us, covering for the EAL support post while Mrs Corson takes a career break, and we will be welcoming back Mrs MacKinnon after her maternity leave.

Our classes (when we return to normal) will be as follows-;

Primary 1 –	Mrs Whitehead	Primary 4 –	Mrs MacKinnon	NCCT –	Mrs Freegard
Primary 1/2 -	Miss Gordon	Primary 5 –	Mrs Armstrong	EAL Support -	Miss Masters
Primary 2 -	Miss Gibney/Miss Lewis	Primary 6 –	Miss Kennedy	Nurture -	Mrs Shah
Primary 3/2 -	Mrs Thomson/Ms Higgins	Primary 7 –	Miss Taggart		
Primary 3/4 -	Miss Gemmell				

Although I only managed to meet a few of you before we had to close our doors, I felt welcomed and part of the school. I look forward to the new session, where I will hopefully be able to get to know more of the Ibrox families and help to support the school community to move forward.

I wish you all a happy and relaxing summer, with no worries about trying to complete work for school!

See you next session.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Parker
Acting Head Teacher