



Ibrox Primary School and Nursery Class
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**Acting Head Teacher
Michelle Parker**

Dear Parents, Carers & Pupils,

6.8.20

Firstly, can I say that all the staff at Ibrox have really missed the children and families, and that we are really looking forward to welcoming you all back after the summer break and hope that we can return to some semblance of normality. We hope that you are all well and managed to enjoy the holidays despite the weather not being that great.

Following the announcement last week from the Scottish Government, we are thrilled to inform you that Ibrox Primary School and Nursery Class will be back open for all pupils from **Wednesday 12th August**. Since the announcement staff have been familiarising themselves with the guidance '**Coronavirus (COVID-19: Guidance on preparing for the start of the new school term in August 2020)**'. After much deliberation and discussion with key stakeholders we now have a plan that we hope will reassure you and the children and allow us to get the children back into school as quickly and as safely as possible. Please see this detailed below:

When will my child be in school?

Primary 1 – We are aware that our lovely P1's had no transition and that this will be a source of stress and anxiety for some of you. We hope that the following plan will go some way to alleviate that.

Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th August– soft start from 9am-9.30am and finish at 12pm. Pupils will take home a packed lunch on both of these days.

Friday 14th August – soft start 9am-9.30am and finish at 2pm. Pupils will try out the lunch hall on this day (packed lunches can also be provided by parents and eaten in the hall).

We will be allowing our P1 parents into the playground initially but not into the building as this is in line with the guidance provided. There will be plenty of staff in the playground to support and guide pupils and families and ensure the pupils have a fantastic start to the week. **We must be mindful of keeping a distance of 2m between adults during that time and ask that you limit the number of family members coming along on the first day.**

Primary 2-7 - To minimise crowds and support pupils return start times are staggered as follows:

On Wednesday, Thursday AND Friday

- Primary 5-7 should arrive anytime between 9.30am and 9.45am and enter the playground where there will be staff to escort your child to their classroom. They will finish school at 2pm.
- Primary 2-4 should arrive anytime between 9.45am and 10am and enter the playground where there will be staff to escort your child to their classroom. They will finish school at 2pm.

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. Pupils should enter the playground and they will be directed to their class by members of staff.

What measures are there in place to keep my child safe?

- The school has been thoroughly cleaned over the last 2 weeks and increased hours of cleaning during the school day and week have been allocated.
- Many soft furnishings and items not easily cleaned have been removed.
- To eliminate the possibility of cross contamination we ask that pupils **do not** bring any of the following until further notice – **pencil cases, toys and books. School bags ARE allowed.**
- The school will provide pupils with their own individual resources which will not be shared.
- Classrooms will be fully ventilated as much as possible during the school day.
- Strict hand hygiene procedures will be in place frequently during the school day, especially on entry to school, before and after breaks (new sanitising stations have been placed at both entrances to the school).
- Staff and children have the option to wear face coverings, if they wish.
- Where possible, adults will maintain a 2 metre distance however this is not required for children.
- We will have staggered intervals and lunches to limit the number of pupils in any one area of the school.
- Movement around the school will be limited (where appropriate). We will be asking pupils to walk on the left hand side when moving through the corridors.
- Doors (with the exception of Fire doors) will be wedged open as much as possible.
- We will be strongly encouraging the use of outdoor learning spaces (including the park) as long as the weather permits.

Lunches and breakfast club

I am still awaiting updated information on the lunch hall and payment system. I will inform you as soon as I have the correct information.

- Breakfast club will be opened as normal for those families who require this.
- All P1-4 pupils are still entitled to free lunches. There will be 2 choices of meals daily and we will inform you of the new arrangements as soon as we can.
- Pupils may wish to bring a packed lunch instead of a school lunch in the short term if they choose. Lunch boxes are allowed but must go straight back into school bags. Lunches in a disposable bag would be preferred.
- Lunch times will be staggered to reduce numbers and queuing
- We ask that children bring their own filled water bottles to school. Pupils will be allowed to replenish their water at the school water machines during the day but it **must** be their own bottle.

Uniform

As pupils are back at school, we are encouraging the wearing of uniform but taking a more relaxed approach. We encourage pupils to wear school colours, and ask that clothes are washed regularly. Ties should **not** be worn at present and we are happy for pupils to wear polo tops and joggers instead of shirts and trousers/skirts if they prefer.

Teachers will not be able to assist younger pupils with clothing and shoes so please be mindful of this when choosing what to wear. Joggers and Velcro might be good options.

'we are aware that the first day of school (particularly for our P1 pupils) is such an important day. With this in mind and for the purposes of photographs –pupils may come dressed in full school uniform with ties on, on the first day'.

PE sessions will take place outside for the foreseeable future. Pupils will be told when those days are when they return to school. Please dress accordingly on those days.

Nursery Class

Plans are well under way for the return of our nursery children. Timings and information will be sent out to parents in the next day or two.

Staffing

I will be returning to Ibrox in my role as Acting Head and hopefully I will get the opportunity to meet more of you over the coming months. I have been in regular contact with Mrs Young who is keen to know how the school and families are coping over these last few difficult months. *'I have to say she looks fantastic and not at all like someone who has just had a wee baby'*. We also have some new staff joining us and I am sure you will get to hear about them over the next few weeks.

I appreciate that this will be a very stressful time for some of you and that you will have many concerns and questions that need answered. Our clerical staff will be available from **Monday 10th August** to answer any calls and to pass on any questions that need answered by myself or other staff members. We will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Please also utilise the Headteacher email account (see above).

- ***Can I please ask that all contact details are as up-to-date as possible to ensure that we can get in touch with families in case of an emergency.***

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to personally reassure you that the staff and I are working hard to ensure that all pupils return to school as safely and as happily as possible. Should you have any issues relating to your child's well-being in school please contact us. I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday.

Kindest Regards

Michelle Parker
Acting Head Teacher