



St. Francis Primary School and Nursery Class

August Return Newsletter - 2020



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Returning to School in August 2020



I am very much looking forward to welcoming you and your children back to St Francis Primary. It will be so good for us all to be back together again. We have missed you all. Please be rest assured that we have worked tirelessly to ensure that all safety measures and protocols are in place so that your children remain safe when they return to school. We understand that this will be an anxious time for everyone, however we hope that all the information from our Education Authority and ourselves will put your minds at rest. We will continue to update you with any necessary information. **Please can you ensure we have your most up to date contact details. You can contact the school on 01475 715725.**

All information that is being sent out to you will also be posted on our website. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/in/stfrancisprimary/>

Confirmed staffing for the year groups are as follows:

- Primary 1A - Mrs L Smith
- Primary 1B - Miss E Mulgrew
- Primary 2 - Mrs G Deveney
- Primary 3/2 - Mrs S Thompson
- Primary 4 - Mrs L Jamieson
- Primary 5 - Miss H O'Malley
- Primary 6 - Mrs E McDowell
- Primary 7 - Mrs P McDonald
- NCCT - Mrs K Hendrie & TBC
- Nurture - Mrs S Thomson & Miss A Roberts
- Support for Learning - Mrs B Smith



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Phased Return

Inverclyde Council Education Department has recommended a short phased return for pupils to ensure a smooth transition back to school. Please see table below:

Day	Action 1	Action 2
Tuesday, 11 August 2020	In-service Day	Pupils should not attend
Wednesday, 12 August 2020	Primary 1 pupils only should attend at 9.00am - 3.00pm	1 adult to accompany child in the upper infant playground.
Thursday, 13 August 2020	All Primary 1 pupils and all Group A pupils at 9am - 3.00pm	Pupils will meet their new teacher in a smaller group setting.
Friday, 14 August 2020	All Primary 1 pupils and all Group B pupils at 9am - 3.00pm	Pupils will meet their new teacher in a smaller group setting.
From Monday, 17 August 20 <u>Breakfast Club arrangements will be communicated regarding reopening.</u>	<u>All pupils attend school following the staggered start times indicated below</u>	Staggered entry times and exit times - see below for details

Organisation for Returning to School

The following protocols have been put in place to support the safe return to school.

- Unfortunately, the Scottish Government guidelines do not permit parents of Primary 1 pupils to accompany their child into their classroom on their first day. Please take all your lovely photographs at home first. Photographs will be taken and posted on the school Twitter page.
- Parents/Carers of Primary 1 pupils can **drop off and uplift** their children from the upper infant playground, socially distanced and only **one parent/carer** per child is permitted in the playground. Staff will assist in collecting your children from you and bring them in to the school. This will be for the **first 3 days only**.
- **No other adults will be allowed in the playground before or after school.**

A staggered start and end to the day should assist in reducing congestion around the school. At all times safety being paramount. I am actively encouraging you not to gather outside the school gates and maintain a 2m distance as far as practicable. A park and stride approach from parents/carers would help to ensure the access and exit points from the school are kept as clear as possible.

Please note: The Car Park is for staff use only. For the health and safety of the children please do not drive into the car park to drop your child off.

What to do on arriving at school

It is important that your child arrives just in time for the start of the school day. Please do not send them any earlier. The children will make their way to their designated class entry door upon arrival.

We will not have opportunities for play before the school day begins.

Staggered Times

<p>Primary 1B, P2/3, P5 & P6 pupils</p> <p><i>These staggered times start from Monday 17th August.</i></p>	<p>8.50am</p>	<p>Pupils should enter the playground as close to the start of the school day as possible and proceed directly to their class - there will be opportunities for pupils to hand sanitise on entry to the school</p>	<p>2.50pm</p>	<p>Pupils will exit the building and should proceed to an arranged meeting point to be uplifted by their parent/carer. <u>P1 pupils will be accompanied out by staff.</u> Pupils should be aware of their arrangements for getting home at the end of the school day.</p>
<p>Primary 1A, P2, P4, P7 pupils</p> <p><i>These staggered times start from Monday 17th August.</i></p>	<p>9.00am</p>	<p>Pupils should enter the playground as close to the start of the school day as possible and proceed directly to their class - there will be opportunities for pupils to hand sanitise on entry to the school.</p>	<p>3.00pm</p>	<p>Pupils will exit the building and should proceed to an arranged meeting point to be uplifted by their parent/carer. Pupils should be aware of their arrangements for getting home at the end of the school day.</p>

Entry & Exit from school

Each class has a designated entry and exit point which will limit contact with other classes and facilitate hand-washing/sanitising on entry:

- Primary 1A - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- Primary 1B - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- Primary 2 - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- Primary 3/2 - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- **All the above children will line up in the infant playground at interval time**
- Primary 4 - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- Primary 5 - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- Primary 6 - Enter by Class Emergency Exit door
- **All the above children will line up in the junior playground at interval time**
- Primary 7 - Enter by main Senior door
- **All the above children will line up in the senior playground at interval time**

We have altered our school day to support safety measures. These measures are outlined below:

<u>The School day</u>				
Primary 1A, P2 , P4 & P6 pupils	10.10am - 10.25am	Break time - Primary 1A and 2 pupils will access the infant playground. Primary 4 pupils will access the junior playground. Primary 6 will access the senior playground No snacks are permitted to be shared.	11.45am - 12.30pm	Lunch Time - Pupils will eat their lunch in class prior to accessing the playground for their break. Pupils can bring a packed lunch or order a meal from the canteen which will be brought to the classroom All rubbish will be removed after pupils have eaten their lunch Pupils will be supervised in the playground after they finish their lunch.
Primary 1B, P2/3, P5, & P7 pupils	10.30am - 10.45am	Break Time - Primary 1b and P 2/3 pupils will access the infant playground. Primary 5 pupils will access the junior playground. Primary 7 will access the senior playground. No snacks are permitted to be shared.	12.30pm - 1.15pm	Lunch Time - Pupils will receive their lunch in class prior to accessing the playground for their break Pupils can bring a packed lunch or order a meal from the canteen which will be brought to the classroom All rubbish will be removed after pupils have eaten their lunch Pupils will be supervised in the playground after they finish their lunch.

Hygiene

All aspects of hygiene such as washing hands and using sanitiser will remain in place:

- Hand sanitisers will be set up at exit and entry points throughout the building.
- Children will wash their hands after sneezing/coughing.
- Children will wash hands/sanitise on entering the building, before and after lunch time/playtime/going to the toilet.
- Children will also wash their hands before and after using shared resources although this will be minimal.
- Schools and ELC's will encourage pupils to take responsibility for their personal hygiene.
- Relevant Risk Assessments will have been completed accordingly.

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School Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform in St Francis and children and families associate it with a real sense of identity, belonging and pride.

It was agreed within the Authority, however to offer the choice of a relaxed school uniform: Polo shirt/sweatshirt, **dark** leggings, joggy bottoms, trousers, shorts etc.

This was to reduce the cost of the school day, to allow the children to participate in outdoor learning and to avoid the need for change of clothes for physical activity.

As a parent you have the option as to whether your child wears the full school uniform or a relaxed version. We will support your decision. Please note, this option will be reviewed in the Autumn term and hopefully we will see a gradual return to full uniform.

PE Days

We ask that children wear their PE kit to school on their appointed PE days. This will minimize the need to change in school.

Response to Co-Vid 19

If a staff member or pupil becomes unwell due to suspected coronavirus, they must wait in the ventilated Isolation Room until they can be collected or get home safely.

They must be tested as soon as possible for coronavirus and they and their household must self-isolate. If they test positive for coronavirus they will be asked to continue to self-isolate for 10 days and their close contacts, identified through contact tracing, will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.

Isolation Room

- Our Medical Room will become our Isolation Room with appropriate PPE.
- An adult will remain with the child until the parent arrives to take the child home.
- First Aider will use appropriate PPE equipment when treating children.

If other staff or pupils need to self-isolate as a result of coming to contact with them, the school, nursery and Local Authority will consult with public health professional and the NHS who will decide if the rest of the class need to self-isolate. You can find out more about the test and protect scheme here:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/campaigns/test-and-protect>

Cleaning will be a priority to minimize infection risk with:

- Increased cleaning staff. Cleaners in before and after school tackling designated areas.
- Day time cleaner in school cleaning door handles/banisters etc.

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Resources

- Pupils can bring in a school bag and a small amount of their own resources such as stationary.
- We will provide learning resources for pupils to use in an allocated tray.
- Pupils **must not** bring in additional things such as soft toys.
- Pupils should not share any of the things they bring into school.
- Where reading books are sent home these will be quarantined on their return to school and cleaned before being used again by other children.

Learning and Teaching

- On the initial return to school, we will plan activities which will provide opportunities for children to reconnect with school, their teachers and staff and their classmates and to explore their experience of lockdown. Supporting mental health and wellbeing of pupils and staff will be our key priority.
- Health and well-being will underpin all learning experiences with a focus on the continuation of core learning
- Outdoor learning will be a strong feature of the curriculum.
- Homework will continue, however there will be an increase in using online resources to support pupil learning. Teachers will use a range of Formative Assessment and feedback strategies for home learning, including giving time in class to evaluate these tasks together.
- This will enable learning gaps to be identified and appropriate interventions to be agreed to help support children as well as ensure suitable challenge.

Things will feel different when we return to school next week but we will quickly adapt as a school community to our new ways. We may realise that further changes are required. Please bear with us. The safety of everyone in our school community is our first priority.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you enjoy the last few days of the summer holiday with your families. I do hope the sun shines!!!

With kind regards,

Jane Stinson

Head Teacher

