

Development

Primary School Education, Communities & Organisational



12 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to have the younger pupils back in school and to hear their happy chatter and laughter around the building. They are so pleased to be back with their friends and engaging in learning and teaching in their classrooms again.

Following the First Minister's announcement on Tuesday 2nd March we are now very much looking forward to welcoming the P4-7 pupils from next Monday (15th March). It will be lovely to have a full and busy school again! Please see below information to support this return. It is important that all parents/carers read this information and not just those with P4-P7 children.

Staffing

All classes will be taught by their own class teacher/s and supported by one or more support member/s of staff. Each class will form their own bubble and will remain in that bubbles for their learning and teaching inputs in the classroom as well as for lunch and on the playgrounds.

I am delighted to inform you that 3 weeks ago we welcomed a new member of staff to our team. Mrs Priyanka Chard has joined us as our P7 teacher and Principal Teacher. Since her arrival she has thoroughly enjoyed leading the P7 class Team online and using the Team Meets and children's work to help her get to know each individual child in P7. She is very much looking forward to welcoming the class back face to face on Monday.

Over lockdown, we have also been joined by three Pupil Support Assistants, Mrs Tammy Fisk, Mrs Jacqui Ferguson and Mrs Renata Krawczyk. The ladies have been working in the school hubs and have been getting to know the children and routines at East End. We very much welcome them to our School Community and I know they are very much looking forward to meeting more of our children next week.

In addition, I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Lisa Hanover, who has worked with our staff team as a supply teacher since the beginning of December, supporting the children in P7 both in the classroom and online. She has quickly become a very respected and valued member of staff both by the pupils and staff team. Mrs Hanover has now been appointed as a Recovery Teacher to East End for 2 days a week and will be in this post until the end of the Summer term. She will be working closely with our Support for Learning Team to help support children in the school who have been identified as requiring additional support following the recent period of remote learning. The staff and I are very much looking forward to her continuing working with us on our team at East End.





"A school that is proud"







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Accessing the School building

- Start and finish times are as normal (9am 3pm). Children should not come to school too early but should aim to arrive between 8.50-9am.
- In the morning, P1-3 children will continue to be met at the wooden gate (at the right hand side of the school) by a member of staff. Children should then make their way around to their class entrance. P1 parents are allowed to wait with their child and they should wait on the larger grass area to the right hand side of the path, remembering of course, to remain socially distanced. The P4-7 children should enter the school grounds through the wooden gate on the left hand side of the building and wait on the playground outside the P4 and P6 classrooms until the bell rings for the start of the day. A member of staff will meet the P4-7s at the gate from 8.50am.
- At the end of the school day, in order to prevent congestion and adults passing in two directions at a gate opening, both wooden gates will be open from 2.50pm. A ONE WAY SYSTEM WILL BE IN OPERATION at this time. We ask that, if you are collecting your child directly from the playground, you make your way through the gate on the right (in gate), socially distance on the playground, collect your child, then walk around the building, leaving through either the wooden gate on the left hand side (out gate)or the metal gate near the annex (out gate). If you feel your child is responsible enough to make their own way out safely then you should socially distance at the front of the school and wait there for them to come out. It is important that this ONE WAY SYSTEM is followed, even by the P1 parents, who are collecting very close to the 'in' gate.
- Please note that if you have a dog with you then we cannot permit you to be on the
 playground through the gates as unfortunately earlier this school session we had dog
 excrement left on the grass. You are required to wait at the front of the building, with
 your dog on a lead.
- I would also like to remind you that only <u>ONE PARENT OR CARER</u> is permitted to drop off/collect their child(ren) and that the government's social distancing guidelines should continue to be observed. You are also required to wear a mask/face covering or have visible an exemption lanyard. A large banner on the grassed area at the front of the school is displayed to remind all parents/carers and visitors of these requirements. For further support, advice and tips with regards to current restrictions and supporting children's safe return to school, please visit: parentclub.scot
- Parents should be mindful that no access to the school building is permitted and requests to speak to the head teacher/class teachers should be made by phone call or email.
- Items left at home e.g. outdoor clothes/packed lunch, cannot be handed in part way through the day. If a packed lunch is forgotten then you should telephone the school to arrange a hot lunch from the school canteen.





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- Children should not bring personal toys/items from home. All stationary will be provided by the school with each child being allocated a stationary pack and jotters to use to support their learning.
- No PE kits are required at present. I will keep parents/carers updated on this as government and local authority guidance is reviewed.
- As all children and staff will be on the school site from Monday 15th March, there is <u>NO CAR PARKING FACILITY</u> on the school grounds for parents/carers unless a disabled blue badge is evident or if a child is accessing a taxi. Please understand the need for safety in our school community and park in a nearby street or walk/bike/scooter to school. As from Monday, this will apply to both drop off and pick up times, so please ensure that your child is aware of where to access you if they have to meet you away from the school grounds. The school entrance will be monitored by the janitor, Mr Anderson and myself to ensure compliance in this matter.
- With regard to the point above, please be respectful to our neighbours at Anderson's Care Home and do not park in their car park either. They require access in and out of their car park for emergency vehicles at all times. Thank you for your understanding.
- If your child is unable to attend school you should contact the school advising us of the reason for absence on <u>each and every day</u> your child is absent from school.

Canteen Menu

The canteen menu will start from week 3 (from the usual menu). This menu was issued again to parents earlier this term. As always your child can bring in a packed lunch, should you wish them to. Please remember to keep the options within this as healthy as possible. Please also note that nuts are not permitted within school due to allergies.

Laptops / IPads

If your child received a government laptop to help support them with remote learning, this does not need to be returned to school. This will help support them with any ongoing online learning or future homework online.

If your child borrowed a school iPad, these iPads should be returned to school on Monday. Please ensure your child brings their iPad and school charger to school in a plastic bag with their name on it. Do not return these iPads to reception. Thank you.





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Easter holidays

Please note that these will take place between 27th March and 11th April. I hope you all have a restful holiday and enjoy spending time with your family during this period.

Kindest regards and we look forward to seeing you back with us on Monday.

Gail McIntosh Head Teacher









