

Glencairn Primary School & Early Years

June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well and managing to cope with these uncertain times. If there are days that are more difficult than others – please know that we are here for you.

I can be contacted by email gw09rossalison@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk or phone 07942219525.

Class teachers can be contacted by their GLOW email address.



Return to School

We have started the planning process for pupils returning in August based on information from the Scottish Government and Local Authority. I will try to provide the information we have at present, however, please bear in mind that with these ever changing times there are some things that may require to be adapted.

Breakfast Club

Unfortunately we cannot provide Breakfast Club; the dinner hall will be a classroom until further notice due to COVID guidance. We would like to reinstate our Breakfast Club Service once all the children have returned full time to their own classrooms. We will issue application forms nearer the time. We would like to apologise for the inconvenience this will cause and would like to reassure you that if we had the room, then Breakfast Club would have been on.

Blended Learning

Blended Learning is a term to describe a mix of face-to-face learning and home learning. The local authority have measured class sizes and informed us of the amount of children each class can hold with a 2-metre distance.



We are currently working towards the following model:

- Monday & Tuesday or
- Thursday & Friday

Children would be in school for 2 days each week. Unfortunately whole classes cannot be together. Many of our classrooms have been capped at a capacity of 9 children due to 2 metre social distancing procedures. Some of our children will be taught in the dinner hall, infant and senior areas.

Groupings will be based on siblings attending on the same days. Each group will be mixed ability and teachers will adapt tasks according to level of ability where necessary.

Curriculum During Recovery Phase

We will focus on the three core areas of the curriculum:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Literacy and English
- Numeracy and Mathematics



Care will be taken to familiarise children with school routines and being part of a group, interacting with each other, listening to each other and taking turns.

Shona Chisholm, our Inclusion Worker and Martin Doherty, our School Counsellor, will also be in school to help support the Health and Wellbeing of our children and families.

Opportunities for outdoor learning will be encouraged, as well as physical exercise and fitness. For example, weather permitting, classes will be encouraged to implement the Daily Mile.



Entry and Exit to School

We will stagger start and finish times so that children are coming into the school building safely. A one way system will operate in the playground. All children and families will be asked to enter through the main gate and exit through the bottom gates, which were previously locked. If bringing a bike/scooter, children will be encouraged to only handle their own. Bike racks will be cleaned at the end of the day. Children will bring their coat and lunch into the classroom and keep them near their desk.

Playtime and Lunches

Playtime and lunchtimes will be staggered and zones will be marked on the playground to encourage children to stay within their own 'bubbles'.

Equipment and Packed Lunch Boxes

Children should bring their own stationery to school in a pencil case and make sure they take it home each night. They should bring their own refillable water bottle each day. We will make every effort to limit the amount of equipment that is shared and will adhere to risk assessments and cleaning routines.



We would prefer that children bring their lunch in disposable bags and not packed lunch boxes.

Uniform – Session 2020/2021

Children should return to school wearing their school uniform. We are asking families to send their children in clean uniform each day they are in school. For the time being we are asking children not to wear ties as we realise it is not practical for these to be washed each day. Our new school uniform colours will apply:

- *Red school sweatshirt or cardigan*
- *White Polo Shirt/Shirt*
- *Grey trousers*
- *Grey skirt/pinafore*
- *Black shoes or trainers (avoid laces until they can tie)*
- *Indoor gym shoes for inside and PE.*



This is the link for embroidered school wear should you wish to use it.

Primary School

<https://www.schoolwearthemadefor.com/badged-school-uniform/e-h/g/glencairn-primary-school/>

Early Years

<https://www.schoolwearthemadefor.com/badged-school-uniform/e-h/g/glencairn-early-years/>

Please ensure that you put your child's name on all items.

Transitions

We recognise the importance of transitions and understand that there are a lot of questions around this area. A school information pack will be issued as soon as possible to new Primary 1 parents/carers and Mrs Booth has been working closely with Mrs Oliver, Mrs McEvoy and the Primary 7 pupils to

involve them in the Auchenharvie Virtual Transition programme. We would hope to arrange an event for our Primary 7 pupils at a later date, when it is safe for them all to be together again.

Staffing for Next Year

Almost all of our classes are moving on together but we have had to make some changes due to being capped at 11 classes. We have had to create a composite class in Primary 5/6.

| Class | Teacher |
|--------------|--|
| The Den | Mrs Gillian McDade |
| P1x | Mrs Laura Allison |
| P1y | Mrs Lorna Middleton |
| P2 | Mrs Kara Gaffney |
| P3/2 | Mrs Natalai Frew and Mrs JoAnn Robinson |
| P3 | Ms Lisa McDonald |
| P4x | Ms Jacqui Habashi |
| P4y | Mrs Wendy Sands |
| P5 | Ms Amie McLeod and Mrs Lorna Williamson |
| P5/6 | Mrs Gillian Gibson |
| P6 | Mrs Nicola McEvoy and Mrs Lindsay Oliver |
| P7 | Mrs Jennifer Oliver |

Please note that due to current classroom restrictions it may take a while until all our children are taught together as one class.

As a staff team, we find it very emotional not to be able to personally say goodbye to our pupils in the manner we usually would and I am sure the children will feel the same way. Please know that we send them our love and best wishes for a happy, healthy summer and look forward to seeing most of them again in August 2020.

For our Primary 7 pupils, all of the staff, Mrs Johnstone and I are so proud of you all. You have been wonderful role models for everyone in Glencairn and we wish you the very best as you continue your learning journey at Secondary school.

Yours sincerely,
Alison Ross
Depute Head Teacher