

COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE (Education Services)

Cunningham House, Irvine KA12 8EE

Tel: 01294 324400 Fax: 01294 324444

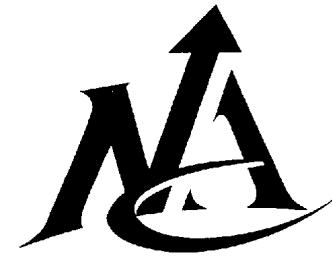
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**St John Ogilvie Primary and Early Years
13 Towerlands Farm Road
IRVINE
KA11 1PZ**

Tel: 01294 218823

Email - stjohnogilvie@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs P McCulloch



**NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL**

Date: 12 June 2020

RECOVERY UPDATE

Dear Parent / Carer,

When school returns in August 2020 how we deliver our curriculum will be very different than what we are used to. Pupils will not immediately return to being educated in the school building on a full-time basis. Initially most children will spend approximately one third of their time learning in school and the rest of the time learning at home.

As part of North Ayrshire's Recovery Plan, I attended a meeting in school on Wednesday 10 June with representatives from Facilities Management to identify and agree on capacity and adaptations for each classroom. This was a very positive meeting and our expectation is that we should be able to achieve 50% capacity in August 2020. Please note that in order to achieve 50% capacity, we will have to utilise every available space within the school e.g. gym hall, playroom, library and open areas.

Once Risk Assessments are finalised and an enhanced clean has been undertaken, it is our intention that staff will safely return in small groups to school prior to the summer holiday in order to prepare the building for pupils returning in August 2020.

I appreciate that parents/carers will have many questions at this time. I have tried to answer the main questions as best I can below.

Allocated School Days

I appreciate that many of you will want to know which days your child will be in school. I am working on this at the moment. Please be assured that family groups will be kept together. I will give you specific information about these arrangements next week.

Classes and Class Teacher

I will send out a further letter identifying class teachers for each stage once our staffing has been finalised. I appreciate this is frustrating as you are keen to know who your child's teacher will be when we return in August 2020 and would ask for your patience at this time. In order to achieve 50% capacity while adhering to social distancing please be aware that Mrs McGuire, Depute Head Teacher, Mrs Hand, Nurture Teacher and Mrs Macnamara, Pupil Support Teacher will now be included within the staffing compliment.

Personal Resources

In order to reduce the risk of cross contamination with shared resources, all children will be given individual stationery – pencils, felt tip pens, crayons, coloured pencils, ruler, rubber, sharpener, etc. Therefore, children should not bring their own stationery or pencil cases to school. Your support in this is much appreciated.

School Lunches

School lunches may be served differently, for example in the classroom. Children are still able to bring a packed lunch to school if they wish to do so and will continue to pre-order their lunch each morning if having a school lunch.

School Uniform

As you can imagine there have been a number of enquiries about school uniform. Outdoor learning will play a significant part in learning and teaching when children return in August and, it is for that reason, we have decided to revise our agreed dress code.

In St John Ogilvie Primary School we will have a temporary dress code in place for our children returning to school in August 2020 which means traditional items of school uniform, such as shirts and ties, need not be purchased at this time. We have taken the decision to remove shirts and ties temporarily to remove unnecessary risk of spreading the virus through loose clothing and to ensure that uniforms and outer garments can be easily and regularly washed. These items can be reintroduced as school life returns to normal.

Temporary Uniform Options for August 2020

Due to the possibility of increased outdoor activities, I would suggest the children may be more comfortable wearing the following as outlined below:

- white school polo shirt (with or without school badge)
- red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (with or without school badge)
- black or grey trousers / tracksuit bottoms (suitable for outdoor activities)
- footwear suitable for outdoors

We would respectfully ask that our school colour is retained as much as possible and that no football colours are worn.

Please note that children will not be asked to change into their gym shoes on arrival in school. As our gym hall will be used as a classroom, any PE activities will take place outside weather permitting. Pupils will also require a suitable outdoor jacket appropriate for seasonal weather.

As part of our Uniform Recycling Scheme led by our Pupil Ambassador Group, we have an excess of school polo shirts, sweatshirts and jumpers which are available to all families. Please contact the school via our email account if you require more information.

Please note that we are currently creating a digital online order form for uniform which will be sent directly via email next week. Payment will be made by bank transfer. Parents/carers will be allocated a specific time to collect their uniform order from the school. There is no pressure on you to purchase uniform via the school.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on the school email address stjohnogilvie@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk and I will do my best to help you.

Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Pauline McCulloch

Mrs Pauline McCulloch
Head Teacher