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Date: 18th February 2021



Head Teacher
Mrs Mary McCreery
Education & Families
Corpus Christi Primary and Nursery School
Crowwood Crescent
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Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you are all safe and well. It has certainly been a difficult year for everyone with Covid 19. This time last year we were preparing for a potential lockdown and here we are a year on, trying to get our pupils back to school and nursery after a second lockdown. This continues to be a very challenging term for everyone however, the First Minister's Announcement this week highlighted that all of our Nursery and Primary 1 - 3 pupils are to return on Monday 22nd February. This is the next phase in the reopening of schools and nurseries to our pupils. Hopefully, we will see the return of the rest of our pupils before Easter, but we will just have to wait and see how the next announcements go.

We have been preparing for our Nursery and Primary 1 - 3 children returning, with the safety of all children and staff uppermost in our minds, and the following information will outline our plans. All of this information can also be found on our School/Nursery Blog.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/corpuschristi/>

Please keep in mind that plans being put in place are being led by Scottish Government and local authority guidance, and are subject to change as directed.

Nursery Plans

We continue to have 3 areas within the school grounds called **Zone 1 (infant playground)**, **Zone 2 (in front of infant class entrance)** and **Zone 3 (main entrance)**.

Due to staffing requirements, a slight change has been made to nursery times. Nursery children should be dropped off between 8:45am and 8:50am and collected between 2:45pm and 2:50pm. Parents should drop their child off in the infant playground (Zone 1), where nursery staff will be present, and then exit the grounds promptly so that Primary 1 - 3 children can begin their entry at 8:55am.

We welcome a new Early Years practitioner, Ms McMullen, to our team who will cover the absence of Ms Veldon for the time being. Ms Veldon's absence continues following a bereavement and we continue to keep her and her family in our prayers.

Our safety procedures remain the same as before. Handwashing and sanitising will continue. Children will be in their nursery groups and will receive their lunch with seats allocated in the dining hall as before.

Unfortunately, as previously, parents are not permitted to enter the school grounds during these current times (other than nursery parents at specific drop off and collection times). We kindly ask that



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adults avoid congregating at the school gates or within the grounds at drop off and collection times. All adults should practise safe, physical distancing when dropping children off or collecting them.

Our nursery and school children use the school grounds for outdoor learning at various points throughout the day. Therefore, following 9:10am once school children have arrived, gates will be closed. Drop off or collection out with the times specified above are by prior arrangement only. Please contact the office if you require any alternative arrangements on any specific day.

Where possible, please park cars at the furthest point from the school that you can to ensure safety for all and always be mindful of pedestrians around the perimeter of the school grounds during these busy periods of entry and exit. Cars should not be driven up or down the church drive during entry and exit times, as this creates a significant safety risk for young children exiting the school grounds.

Health and Safety

Some parents and carers are understandably worried about the return to school/nursery on Monday. The difficulty many have is wondering if it is safe for the youngest children in their family to return, when older siblings are still learning remotely.

Below outlines a full statement from NLC. The letter can be accessed using the link below.

crowd.in/sCJ2hx

- 🛡️ Our protocols and procedures are still in place as before.
- 🛡️ Staff have access to lateral flow testing twice per week to further reduce risk of Covid 19 spread.
- 🛡️ Staff will continue to maintain 2m distancing from other adults, however it is not practical or possible to maintain distance from nursery children.
- 🛡️ Staff will wear face coverings as appropriate.
- 🛡️ Nursery lunches continue as before.
- 🛡️ Please provide a change of clothing and indoor shoes and wrap up warmly for outdoor learning. Puddle suits and wellies will be provided
- 🛡️ The Scottish Government information tells us that the younger the child, the less likely they are to be affected by Covid 19.
- 🛡️ The latest scientific advice from the Scottish Government continues to indicate that there is no requirement for nursery aged children to physically distance in nursery.

We will continue to operate our one way system. Please do not congregate at the school gates or in the grounds. Please drop off or collect your child and move on so others can do the same safely and maintain the distancing requested. Parents and carers are reminded that they should wear a face covering at drop off and collection times.

Our staff are working extremely hard to ensure all these arrangements are in place and I wish to thank them for their hard work and commitment to our school and nursery community during such a complex and challenging time.

Communication

In line with guidance from the Scottish Government and North Lanarkshire Council, I would like to remind you that no adults should be within the school premises, including the outdoor school grounds, unless they are North Lanarkshire council employees or by prior arrangement. However, it is important to my staff and I that we work closely with you as parents, so please contact me by



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phone or by email at the address below if I can be of any help, or you can phone the office and speak to Mrs Ogilvie or Mrs Mullett.

As you will understand, our guidance and available information is subject to change, but we will endeavour to keep you informed via text, email, School/Nursery Blog and Twitter (@NLCorpusChristi).

Please contact me on ht@corpuschristi.n-lanark.sch.uk if I can help in any way.

Our school and nursery team are thoroughly looking forward to opening our doors again to Nursery and Primary 1 - 3 children next week and hope that Primary 4 - 7 children also return very soon. We have missed the children tremendously and look forward to welcoming them back and doing our very best to support the learning and wellbeing of each child in a safe and nurturing environment.

Kind regards,

Mary McCreery

Mary McCreery
Head Teacher