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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.

Primary 1 - 3 Children

Primary 1 - 3 children are making a full return to in school learning and should therefore wear full school uniform. Outdoor P.E. kit should be worn again on the days specified by each class teacher (details issued shortly).

Plans are currently being made regarding the teaching and learning of P3/4 with the split of P3 in school and P4 learning remotely. Details of these plans will be communicated to P3/4 parents before Monday. Mrs Rennie can't possibly do both at the same time, as wonderful as she is!

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)**.

Our safety procedures remain the same as before. Please drop your child off at the school gate where he/she will go to their designated zone as before. Handwashing and sanitising will continue. Children will be in their class groups and have their seats allocated in class and 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 adults avoid congregating at the school gates. All adults should practise safe, physical distancing when dropping children off or collecting them.



Derek Brown, Assistant Chief Executive, Education and Families, Civic Centre, Motherwell, ML1 1AB

Service and People First

Our school children are already very familiar with entering the school grounds independently. **The gate at Crown Street should only be accessed by prior arrangement. If this was not the gate used before and you require to use this gate then please contact the school to make arrangements.**

All school children should arrive between **8:55am and 9am** each day. Gates will remain open until **9:10am**. Following 9:10am, the only access will be via the main gate and arrangements should be made by contacting the office in advance.

No child should arrive before 8:55am, as access is required for nursery drop off before school children arrive. 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 school grounds promptly so that Primary 1 - 3 children can begin their entry at 8:55am.

Due to staffing circumstances, further details regarding Breakfast Club will be issued as soon as possible. Please note that any Breakfast Club provision will be specifically for children of Key Workers and Vulnerable children by prior arrangement. Please contact Mrs McCreery if you require this service. Every effort will be made to have this service in place for Monday 22nd February and details of this communicated to those requiring this service as soon as possible.

At 3pm, when children are exiting school, please again refrain from congregating at the gates. Classes will be dismissed in a specific order to facilitate this. It is important that children can see an adult when they leave. Staff will bring each class directly to the gate to ensure children exit safely. **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.**

The order for exit is as follows.

Gate	Class Order for Exit
Crown Street	Following prior arrangement, children will be brought directly to this gate on exit.
Church	Primary 3 - Room 5 Primary 2/3 - Room 4 Primary 1 – Room 3
Main Entrance	Primary 4 -7 Key Worker and Vulnerable children, only where provision has been agreed.

Health and Safety

Some parents and carers are understandably worried about the return to school 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



Derek Brown, Assistant Chief Executive, Education and Families, Civic Centre, Motherwell, ML1 1AB

Service and People First

- 🏰 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 and, where it is practical and possible, from children.
- 🏰 Staff will wear face coverings as appropriate.
- 🏰 P1 - 3 free school meals are available as before.
- 🏰 Nursery lunches continue as before.
- 🏰 School uniform is expected as normal but please wrap up warmly for outdoor learning.
- 🏰 We are still in Tier 4 and lockdown therefore there is still no indoor P.E. at this time.
- 🏰 Children will continue to have their designated zones and seating plans.
- 🏰 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 primary aged pupils to physically distance in school.
- 🏰 If parents opt out of sending their children back, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.
- 🏰 There will be no additional digital offering for pupils in P1 - 3 who do not return to school, except during times when required to isolate. Our guidance is that this is the next phase in the return of everyone and at this point in time, it has been deemed safe by the Scottish Government for Nursery and P1 - 3 children to return. Therefore, learning will be delivered in school and not digitally.

We will continue to operate our one way system. Please do not congregate at the school gates. 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.

Primary 4 to 7 Children

Remote learning will continue for Primary 4 - 7 children until such time as they are able to return to in school learning, hopefully this is soon!

Primary 1 - 3 children returning means that there will be a slight change to our rota for those children in Primary 4 - 7 who are attending for Key Worker and Vulnerable provision. All other arrangements such as appropriate clothing for outdoor learning should continue, as well as notifying staff in advance of days and times required.

Primary 5 - 7 teachers will attend the school to provide this provision two days per week now rather than the one day as before. This may mean some changes to the current days and times where live sessions take place for remote learning, but these changes will be reflected in the weekly timetables so that children are aware of any new days/times. Please make sure your child checks their timetable for any changes so they do not miss any live sessions.

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 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 phone or by email at the address below if I can be of any help, or you can phone the school 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