

**Old Monkland Primary School**

**Returning to School Information**

As you know we have been waiting on guidance from the Scottish Government and NLC before issuing information about returning to school in August.

There are still some big decisions to be made and therefore we will be issuing all families with an Individual Return to School Arrangements Letter next week, which will outline classes, teachers (if possible), groupings within classes, days and times to attend school. There will also be information on the gates children should use to enter the playground and their allocated area within the playground.

All of these requirements are to adhere to guidance on social distancing the best we can within our School and Nursery environment.

For now here is some information I can tell you.

**Uniform**

Uniform will be much the same at Old Monkland Primary. Children wear gold polo shirts, royal blue sweatshirt /cardigans and grey or black skirt OR trousers. Yellow or Blue Summer dresses in the warmer weather are fine too. We have always asked that school uniform has at least one piece with the OMPS badge on it.

Ties can be trickier this year and therefore we would prefer children to avoid wearing these if possible. However if our new P.1 children wish to wear a tie on their first day for this special occasion you are welcome to do so.

**PE KIT**

PE Kit in OMPS has been a plain white t shirt or polo shirt, black shorts and indoor gym shoes. We have had to remove shoe boxes from corridors and classes and therefore we have NO storage space for personal belongings. This session, we would appreciate if on PE days children could wear jogging trousers or leggings to school to avoid changing .PE will take place outdoors at present.
We will review this in line with Authority information and keep you informed of any changes.

**Personal Belongings**

In August children will be provided with their own tray of resources just for them to use.

Therefore children do not need to bring a school bag or pencil case to school. We also ask that NO personal belongings are brought to school unless in agreement with class teachers.

**Class Rooms**

All classrooms have been deep cleaned and surplus furniture removed. Pupil desks have been spaced out to adhere to 2m distancing. As stated, each pupil will have their own tray of resources for their personal use only.

Throughout their time in school we will be focussing on Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy as a priority. We will try to have active sessions throughout the day, to ensure children are not sitting at their desks for too long.

On return we will want to offer support for children and families as this has had such a huge impact on us all and everyone’s experience and views about it are valid and need to be considered.

Further support for Parents to access ICT and systems we use for digital learning at home e.g. Glow Teams will be rolled out in August.

**Nursery Class**

I believe letters should be issued to Nursery Parents later this week, with information on offers of place and a further form seeking information from you about preferred sessions that can be offered in line with new ratios to adhere to Social Distancing.

As soon as we can, we will then get the information to you with regard to Key Workers, Days /hours of Nursery Placement that can be offered and information on changes made to our Nursery Class

**Snack / Lunch**

We are currently waiting on advice re lunches for August. However if your child wishes to bring a packed lunch or snack for interval, this should be brought in a disposable bag.

We will issue further information on School lunches as soon as we have this.

**School Playground**

Following NLC advice NO adults will be allowed into the playground/ building unless for an agreed appointment.

Therefore pupils must be dropped off / collected at their allocated gates and wait in their allocated zone. Staff will escort pupils to and from the building and do our utmost to match children to adults at gates at collection times.

Therefore pupils must wear appropriate clothes for the weather.

To support social distancing at these times drop off and collection times have to be staggered.

**Car Park**

As previous, our car park is for staff only but this rule will need to be adhered to fully in the new session and cars cannot drop off children in the car park or at main reception.

**P.7 Moving to Secondary**

As families know, staff have been in touch with our P.7 s individually last week to advise of Secondary Schools plans for transition activities this week and to get as many of the class involved in some leaver’s activities with us. We are busily organising leaver’s packs and will be in touch as soon as these are available.

It is still our intention to have a leavers dance and awards ceremony (for pupils families) when we can gather again to do this. We feel you deserve these special moments to share together and enjoy seeing each other’s reaction to your memories of Primary and who achieved our different awards. Our P.7 also usually enjoy nominating their own set of awards for the dance! We don’t want them to miss out on any of this if we can do it, even if at a later date!

We also thought we could make use of the funds raised by Bag Packing to make this occasion extra special and it would be something to look forward to, offering all of our P.7 leavers the chance to visit again as a class group . This would not be possible at all at present.

Full refunds for any payments made towards Kilbowie Trip will be contained within our Leavers Packs too.

We fully appreciate these arrangements are a change for us all and we will continually review these in line with Health and Safety advice.

We have worked really hard over the years to make all of our families and children feel welcome and cared for in our school and we hope you will continue to support us during this time when we have to implement procedures like these in the short term, to hopefully get back to our preferred options as soon as it is safe to do so.

Please be assured we will do all we can to make learning as fun as we can and to support our pupils in rebuilding friendships and relationships with staff, even in small groups for now.

We will be in touch again next week

Thank you again for your continued support

Lynn McFadden

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Head Teacher