



Coupar Angus Primary School

Newsletter 1

August 2020

Dear all,

I hope you and your families have managed to have a good summer break and enjoy some nice weather and easing of lockdown.

As you know school resumes for pupils on Wednesday and Thursday next week and this newsletter will give you some updated information.

We know some of you may be anxious about the return to school and some the children may be as well. We will do our best to support all the children at this time.

There is quite a lot of information to share and there will be more over the coming weeks, please ensure your Parentpay account and your phone numbers are all up-to-date. We will also use our Facebook page and once back in school, Seesaw.

Monday 10th, Tuesday 11th August will be in-service days. School staff only.

Wednesday 12th August, **Group A** children in school.

Thursday 13th August, **Group B** children in school.

Friday 14th August, all children in school.

Specialist Provision and Nursery classes have their own arrangements and parents should have been contacted about these.

Nursery children are back full-time from Wednesday 12th August.

The Group A and Group B lists have been sent to your Parentpay accounts on Monday 22nd June.

Monday 17th August, all children back in school full-time.

As always the school email is

couparangus@pkc.gov.uk if you wish to email me directly and I will reply as soon as I can.

We are all really looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and settling back into school routines, although some things will still be different and we are not back to normal so we will share some of the changes with you and over the coming weeks.

N Drew

Important - Contact Details

If you do change your phone number, email or home address at this time, please do let us know. It is important we can share information with you and get in touch. Please email couparangus@pkc.gov.uk if you have any changes to tell us.

School Uniform

School uniform will be relaxed for term 1.

Children can wear tracksuit bottoms, perhaps a t-shirt and school jumper.

Clothes need to be changed and washed daily when we start back in August, for infection control, so it is easier to wear casual clothes for cleaning, please do so.

However, if you want your child to wear school uniform that is fine as well.

Children do need a jumper and a coat, as we will be outside as much as we can and **windows in classrooms will be open all day**, so there will be a breeze in the rooms, so a jumper is advisable.

Children also won't be changing for PE initially, so something comfortable they can run around in for outdoor PE will be useful. PE will be outside for the foreseeable future.

The school uniform bank/swap shop will be open on Monday and Tuesday 10th/11th August from 2-3pm in the playground, if

you wish to pop along and see what we have.

New guidance- some changes since June 2020

Children do not need to socially distance from one another, however, we will be trying to keep classes together and not encourage too much mixing between classes. Adults do need to stay 2m apart from children as much as possible and from each other and facemasks will be worn by adults when we need to get closer to children. However, this is along with very good hygiene measures.

Children will wash their hands when they come into the classroom or use hand sanitizer. School has had a delivery of extra cleaning materials, hand sanitizer and PPE. There will be extra cleaning over the day and children will wash or sanitise their hands regularly.

School will provide a pencil case and stationery for each child, so a school bag should not be needed, **just a coat and lunchbox, snack and water bottle.**

We are encouraging children to bring as little as possible from home to school and would appreciate your support with this. **Book bags for P1 pupils will be provided. P2 & P3 pupils should still have their book bags.**

There will be NO TUCKSHOP in August, so children should bring their own snack and water bottle each day.

Nursery children will all be in nursery 9–3pm each day, although we have asked some children to come in at 9am and some at 9.15 to allow for a staggered start and less congestion. Miss Kerr has been in touch with families and staff will welcome you from the car park gate once school re-opens in August.

Nursery Building Works

We have been told these will finish at the end of the summer break and we should be able to 'move in' to the new nursery space within a couple of weeks. We are aiming for w/c 25th August, however, in these uncertain times we have to be flexible! **We may be able to move in sooner and we will let you know next week!**

The new nursery space looks wonderful and will help us to deliver a great Early Years' experience. We will send home photos when it is complete, since a proper grand opening may have to be postponed!

Starting back next week:

On Wednesday and Thursday when half the children are in school this will give us a chance to settle the children, meet the new teachers properly and get to know the new routines and hygiene routines.

Lunches for P1-3 will be in the dinner hall and for P4-7 will initially be in the classrooms. Children will then go out to play. Lunch will be a bagged cold lunch for term 1, although children can bring packed lunches from home or go home for lunch.

We do need to ask that **only P1 and nursery parents** come into the school grounds when we first start back. Children no longer have to socially distance, but adults do and so we do not want to have lots of parents congregating in the school playground. We know this is hard, but with the common, public pathway and the School Road infant entrance you should be able to arrange a place to wait for your child and socially distance from other

parents. This is to keep everyone safe and ensure that if there are any outbreaks, cases are kept to a minimum. If your child is upset and you need to come in, that's ok, but please do socially distance if you are in the playground.

We would ask for children not to come to school too early and staff will be in the playground in the first week from 8.55am to help and direct children and at the end of the day.

We will have a staggered start and end to the day initially to ensure not everyone comes in the entrance ways at once. Staff will stay with P1-2 children until we see an adult.

If you are very anxious about your child returning to school, please get in touch as soon as possible so we can discuss this with you and offer support.

If your child comes to school in a taxi you will have been contacted by PKC. Don't worry if this means your child arrives at 9am and their class doesn't go in until 9.10am, teachers will be in the playground from 9am.

Children in the specialist provision will be contacted by Mrs Ashely and Mrs Mackenzie before school returns.

The Curriculum

For term 1 we will focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing. We will support children to settle back to school routines and the new routines. It will be important for children to reconnect with each other and their teachers.

We will provide homework and reading books and once books come back to school they will be quarantined for 72 hours before anyone else uses them and wiped down.

Class	Line-Up Area	Staggered Start Time AM and finish time	Suggested Parent Waiting Area
P1	From infant ramp back to trim trail (left of door)	9am 3.05pm	Infant playground
P2/3	From infant ramp back to trim trail	9.10am 3.15pm	Public pathway or just outside infant gate
P3	Against boundary wall parallel to ramp (where parents used to stand)	9am 3.05pm	Public pathway or just outside infant gate
P4	Beside Main Building front door at fire exit next to main entrance,	9.10am 3.15pm	Common or along path
P5/6M	At rail at ramp to rear entrance	9am	Common
P5/6GB	At rail at ramp to rear entrance	9.10am	Common
P7	Beside Main Building at fire exit next to main entrance, back next to wall towards Common	9am	Common
TR1	Some children travelling by taxi will arrive later. Suggested non-taxi children come in at 9.15am to avoid other start times and use the rear door. Staff collect at taxi		
TR2			

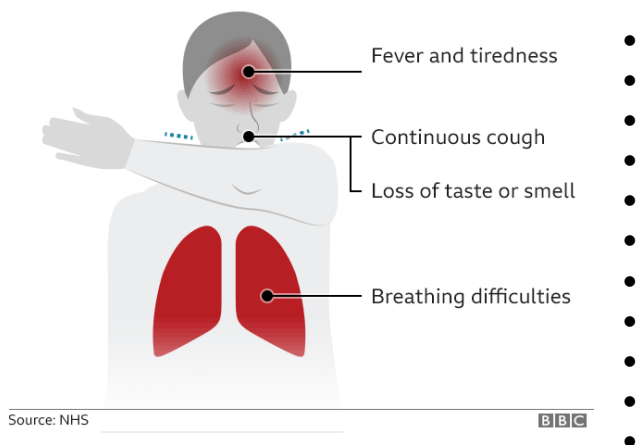
There will be no school trips planned or after school clubs in term 1.

The overarching principles upon which our plans for a return to full-time education are based, are as follows:

1. Good respiratory and hand hygiene by everyone
2. 2m distancing between adults and young people as far as possible
3. Subject to other risk mitigations being in place there is no requirement for physical distancing between young people of any age in schools. Where possible they will be kept as discrete groups and classes.

Health

Please **DO NOT** send your child to school if they are displaying any of the following symptoms:



- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We will be discussing with all pupils what they should do if they develop symptoms whilst in school. Key points to note and discuss with your children are:

- what the symptoms are

- to report to their teacher if during class time, or to support staff if they start to develop symptoms
- a triage system in place for medical. An initial assessment will be carried out by first aider
- a separate isolation medical room has been set up to be used in the case of suspected symptoms
- If a pupil becomes unwell at school:
 - Parents/carers will be contacted and asked to make arrangements to pick the young person from school immediately and to follow the national guidance for households with possible COVID-19 infection including testing and self-isolation.
 - after leaving the school, minimise contact with others where possible, eg use a private vehicle to go home. If it is not possible to use private transport, then the advice is to return home quickly and directly, and if possible, wear a face covering in line with Scottish Government guidance. If using public transport, the advice is to try to keep away from other people and catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue/crook of arm.
- Should a member of staff or pupil be confirmed as having coronavirus, then Test and Protect procedures will be followed. Schools are considered complex settings and cases will be prioritised and escalated to specialist Health Protection Teams. (HPT)

We will follow procedures and guidance from HPT at all times and parents will be alerted as per guidance.

Parent contact:

We are asking at this time that parents do not come into the school building. This is very hard as you know we have always operated an open door policy and we are always keen to see parents in school. However, in line with guidance, this ensures less contacts and keeps everyone safer. So we do ask that you **DO NOT COME TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING, UNLESS ASKED TO DO SO BY A MEMBER OF STAFF**. If you need to come to school, please phone the office and make an appointment on 01250871400. You can also email me at the address above and we will get back to you as

soon as possible. We can also arrange for class teachers to phone you to discuss any issues.

We will send regular updates home via Seesaw, and ParentPay. However, if you are worried, please do phone or email.

If your child has an IEP, or Child's Plan we will still hold meetings, but these will be via Teams or over the phone for the foreseeable future.

We do have some new staff joining the team and I will send a further newsletter next week with more updates and staffing updates.

I hope your child(ren) are excited about coming back to school and seeing their friends and new teachers, but for some it will be an anxious time, we will do our best to support all the children and families and make school a positive learning experience.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kind regards
Nikki Drew
Headteacher