

St. Charles' Primary School
Rowan Street
Paisley
PA2 6RU

Tel: 0300 300 0181



Web site: www.st-charles.renfrewshire.sch.uk
E Mail: stcharlesenquires@renfrewshire.gov.uk
Head Teacher: Grace F Hannigan
Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn
Cotton Street: 03003000170

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Dear Parent/carer,

We appreciate you will be keen to know more about the arrangements when children start to return to nursery, and we can now share that.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming children back to St Charles' Early Learning and Childcare Class.

We understand the past few months hasn't been an easy time and our thanks go to you for your patience and understanding.

This will of course be different from any normal year. Renfrewshire is still moving forward with plans to provide children in Renfrewshire with 1140 hours of fully-funded early learning and childcare where we can. However, this will not happen in August given the current challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

When we do re-open it will not be possible to have all children in at once. All Renfrewshire early-learning centres and classes will offer 30 hours of childcare over each two-week period, although the pattern of attendance will vary between nurseries.

We know this is not ideal but are sure you will appreciate the situation is unprecedented. We have had to balance how best to maximise the time we can offer each child, make the environment as normal and welcoming as possible, and ensure the safety of children and staff, in line with the national guidance.

We know maintaining physical distancing will be a challenge with young children which is why we will keep children in smaller groups, while using all available space, and putting in place enhanced cleaning procedures.

Your child's pattern of attendance;

The attendance pattern for your child will be Thursday, Friday and alternate Wednesday's starting from Thursday 13th August 2020

To ensure we maintain physical distancing at the start and end of the day, we will stagger start and finish times for different groups. We will be in touch with details of these for your child nearer the time as well as with guidance around how pick-ups and drop-offs will be safely managed.

We have tried to ensure all siblings attend on the same day wherever we can, however this has not always been possible. We realise we may not have been able to satisfy every family's particular circumstances, and for this we both apologise and thank you for your understanding and support.

How long these arrangements continue depends entirely on advice and guidance from the Scottish Government. We will keep you updated on what that means for you and your family as and when that advice changes.

Other information

We appreciate the new model throws up a lot of questions and will be a challenge for parents but we will do all we can to help. Childcare will be available, where possible, for the children of key workers on the days required. You can find out more information on the council's website.

The council's website has a detailed Q&A full of information for parents and carers so please see <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-schools>

If you have any questions which are not answered in the Q&A please don't hesitate to contact us directly at stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Once again, we thank you for your understanding at this difficult time. We look forward to seeing you all again in August.

I hope you all have a great summer.

Kind Regards

Mrs Grace Hannigan

Mrs Judith Kirk