

St James' Primary School
10 Brown Street
Renfrew
PA4 8HL

Tel: 0300 300 0183

Head Teacher: Natalie Fitzsimmons

Email: stjamesrenfrewenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Website: st-james-renfrew.renfrewshire.sch.uk



Children's Services



Thursday 4th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will by now have received information from our Director of Children's Services, Steven Quinn, giving you further information about Renfrewshire Council's continued work towards supporting our children and families in a phased return to school in August, and how schools and clusters will continue to update you with plans moving forward.

Trinity High School cluster primary schools continue to work in partnership to ensure consistently high quality provision for our children across our cluster primary schools, and we write to update you on our cluster position on school uniform for the academic session 2020/2021.

In line with Renfrewshire Council policy, each of our cluster primary schools adheres to a strict uniform policy, where shirt/blouse and tie uniform with trouser/skirt/pinafore is worn by all of our pupils. We are proud of the very high standards of behaviour, pride in our schools and attitude towards learning our school uniforms foster.

However, as you will be aware, the planned phased return to school in August, which will include increased outdoor learning experiences, the requirement to adhere to social distancing measures for the well being of pupils and staff (which will present a difficulty in supporting children with ties/top buttons/shoelaces), and also the need for clothes worn to school to be washed very regularly, are issues we must all be aware of.

After careful consideration of the issues outlined above, it is the agreement across all cluster primary schools that a temporary informal uniform (aligned to cluster schools current PE uniform) will be adopted across all cluster primary schools from August 2020 until such times as a full return to school is possible. In each cluster primary school, the informal uniform will be:-



Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1 1TZ

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Unbranded navy (or black) jogging bottoms or leggings

White polo shirt/t-shirt

Unbranded navy (or black) jumper/sweatshirt/hoodie

White or black trainers (or wellies if the weather is inclement) – in this we would recommend velcro trainers for younger pupils

Waterproof jacket

We recognise that, for many of children, they will already have these items of clothing, and the use of unbranded items of clothing will help to reduce cost and pressure on parents to purchase expensive branded clothing.

Although we will adopt an informal uniform from August 2020, as cluster schools we would like to stress that our formal shirt/blouse, tie, and trouser/skirt/pinafore uniform will be reintroduced and strictly adhered to as soon as schools return to normal.

We recognise that, for our Primary 1 children, the first day of school is very exciting, and part of this excitement comes from wearing the school uniform for the very first time. However, in these extraordinary times, many of the traditions and practices which we have been so used to enjoying, have unfortunately had to be put aside for the safety and wellbeing of all. Whilst we recognise that not wearing our shirt/blouse and tie uniform, and instead wearing our informal uniform (detailed above) is disappointing for all of us, and especially for our new Primary 1 pupils, we assure that that our formal uniform will be reintroduced as soon it is safe and reasonable to do so. We look forward to the time when we can welcome all of our Primary 1 children to school wearing our shirt/blouse and tie uniform and celebrating being together as a full class, and indeed a full school community.

On behalf of the community of St. James' Primary, and Trinity High School cluster primary schools, we would like to thank you for your continued support, patience and understanding in this matter, and assure you of our continued commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our children.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Fitzsimmons
Head Teacher



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