

St Paul's Primary School

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Our Ref :

Date : 11 November 2020

HEAD TEACHER: LOUISE A MAHER

Dear Parent / Carer

As you know, the Scottish Government has now introduced a system of new protection levels to help stop the spread of COVID-19, and Renfrewshire has been placed at **Level 3**.

This means some extra guidance for schools to help keep everyone safe. Most of this has been shared with you already in various forms. However, I thought it would be helpful to remind you of these measures in one letter.

The Scottish Government has stated that we can now resume indoor PE for pupils. Whilst some schools are able to accommodate this safely, our gym hall remains the Primary 7 classroom. PE will therefore remain outdoors. Children should continue to wear PE kit to school and bring their waterproof trousers and jackets, provided by the school, on PE days. Waterproofs should be washed every weekend to ensure good hygiene.

Staff within the school, currently keep a two-metre distance from each other and from pupils. Staff will wear a face covering wherever this is not possible. This will apply from Primary 3 and above. We are operating a more flexible approach which balances safety and quality of communication in the early years and within the anchor base.

All school staff will wear face coverings in all communal areas of the school and will explain to our pupils why this is important.

All visitors, parents and carers should wear a face covering when entering the school or playground and at pick-up and drop-off area at the school gates. Parents / carers are asked to ensure they maintain social distancing when dropping and collecting children. **REMEMBER THERE SHOULD BE 2 METRES BETWEEN EACH HOUSEHOLD AT ALL TIMES.** Visitors and parents/carers are asked to follow the white arrows / one-way system when dropping siblings off at Foxlea.

The national advice explains the importance of good airflow within schools to minimise the spread of the virus. As we approach winter and colder weather, we will work to ensure classrooms are safe and comfortable. However, we ask parents and carers to provide warm clothing, such as a jumper or fleece, in colder weather. Please contact the school directly if you require support with this.

All of the above steps are in addition to the existing safety measures in our school, which follow the national guidance and are already of a very high standard. As you know earlier in the session we were visited by Health and Safety Executive and they were pleased with our procedures.



Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn
Council Headquarters, South Building, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1LE



Thorough cleaning within the school continues throughout the day. Very good handwashing routines with visual supports and reminders are in place. Physical distancing between staff and between staff and pupils is followed wherever possible; and good hygiene when catching coughs and sneezes – “catch it, bin it, kill it”

Our staggering school start/finish times, breaks and lunchtimes, continue to work well. You should continue to follow the slot you have been provided with, as we calculate the number of children / families arriving at each slot. Please note you cannot just change your slot without requesting from the head teacher in advance.

Maintaining class groupings is a key aspect of school life. All children learn, eat and play in their allocated bubbles in order to keep the spread of the virus down. You may have noticed the children maintaining a 2metre distance as they enter and exit the school grounds. Please help the children to understand the importance of this by continuing beyond the gates.

Good ventilation of buildings, where staff will ensure windows and vents are opened and balance this with the external temperature.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that all children should wear a face covering when travelling to and from school by school bus, unless they are exempt. Children should also wash their hand well as soon as they get home. All the equipment children need in school is provided therefore no pencil cases to be brought in. The only items needed are school bag with lunch bag inside and a clean, full water bottle each day.

More information on [what we are doing to keep schools safe](#) is available on the council website, as is a [guide to what to do if you suspect or have coronavirus](#).

We know the ongoing situation is very challenging for everyone, but we are doing all we can to keep our school safe and maintain a welcoming and nurturing learning environment for pupils.

The response from our pupils has been fantastic and we cannot thank you and them enough for your continued support. The children are being responsible, caring and working hard in class. You can see pictures of their work and learning experiences on our twitter page @stpaulsfoxbar

Please stay safe at home and follow the latest public health advice. If there is anything else you wish to discuss with us, please contact the school directly.

Kind Regards



Louise A Maher
HEAD TEACHER



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