

People Directorate

Head Teacher: Fiona Donnelly
Coylton Primary School
Main Road, Coylton, KA6 6JP
Tel: 01292 612491
Email: Coylton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Our Ref: Your Ref:
Date: 18.12.20



Dear Parents and Carers

This is the last round up of 2020! Never would I have believed that this was the way this year would have ended, with our world gripped in a global pandemic. All adults and children linked to our school have had to come up with new ways of learning and communicating with one another – creativity has been in abundance and I am in awe of the way our young people have coped, both during lockdown and on the return to school. More than ever, our school community has pulled together and supported one another. Thank you to parents and carer's for completing a Covid return survey in each term. The results of this term's survey will be emailed out, and after the holidays, I will update you with a 'You Said, We Did' table.



This afternoon, we will draw the Parent Council Raffle. With over 40 prizes up for grabs, this will take a little time. We hope to update the Parent Council Facebook page with winners as we get them so check it out. A member of Parent Council will be in touch over the weekend if you have won a prize!! My thanks go to Parent Council, and school staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that fund raising continued to happen for our school, and families were still involved in the life of the school. Parent Council will be in touch in the New Year with a final total for all fund-raising events.



So, on Tuesday we wave farewell to Miss Shimmons for a while as she heads off to prepare for the arrival of baby number 2! I can't tell you how much we are all going to miss her in school, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her so very much for her hard work and dedication to our school, and the support she has given me! We can't wait to hear news of the baby next term! Mrs Mulholland has been over to school this week to meet the children and staff. She spent the day with Miss Shimmons and we are confident and excited to have her join our team in January.



We have had a great couple of weeks in school preparing for Christmas and ensuring that all our children experience a sense of 'normality'! Christmas Jumpers for the whole of December has been fantastic. We have had:

- ❖ quizzes
- ❖ scavenger hunts
- ❖ craft afternoons
- ❖ video messages for the community
- ❖ video messages from Santa and Santa parcels
- ❖ pantomimes with popcorn and drinks
- ❖ movies with chocolate treats

as well as many other individual class activities!!! The one thing that we as a staff agreed not to do this year was have Christmas parties. I know that you may feel disappointed by our decision, especially as I know that some other schools are having parties of a sort, however, we felt that we would have been so limited in the activities we could have at a 'party', that we would prefer to put safety first for one year in order that families are fit and well to enjoy Christmas together. We stand by that decision and feel that we have given our children a variety of experiences to make up for it!

P7 will also come home today with their Leavers Hoodies!!



Thank you all in advance for donations brought in today for the South Ayrshire Foodbank. Especially at this time of year, I know how much your donations will mean to families in our own communities! You are all stars!



P1 and S1 registration will take place after the holidays. Due to Covid, all registration will be done online this time. I expect the P7 system to be live from Friday 11th January and P1 system live from Friday 18th January. Further information will come out from South Ayrshire Council after the holidays.



January will see our school and EYC celebrate all things Scottish! We are currently looking into how we hold our Scots Verse competition and our P7 Burns Supper with some adaptations. Further information will come out to you after the holidays.



The last day of term for pupils is Tuesday 22nd December. Recent guidance from the Scottish Government has suggested that contact tracing may still take place up to 7 days after the last day of term. Public Health has

confirmed that we will not be contacted on Christmas Day or between 29th December and schools returning on 6th January. I will be the point of contact for the school and EYC during the 24th, 26th, 27th and 28th December, and I will monitor school email and groupcall should you need to get in touch.



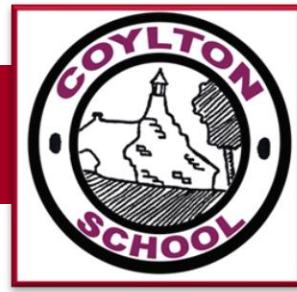
On behalf of the whole team in school and EYC, I hope that every single family manages some sort of together time over the festive period. There is no finer team than this one below, and I am so delighted and proud to be part of the Coylton family!!

Here's to a much more settled and safer 2021 for all of us!!



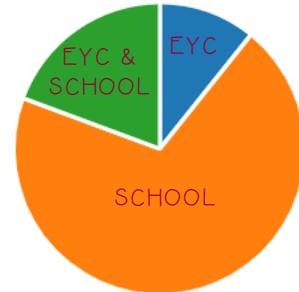
PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

DECEMBER 2020



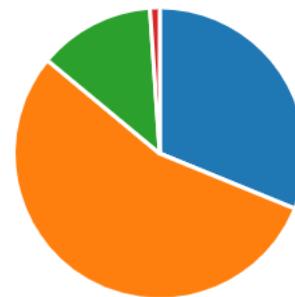
PLEASE SELECT FROM THE FOLLOWING: -

- I have a child / children in the ... 10 = 11%
- I have a child / children in the ... 65 = 70%
- I have a child / children in the ... 18 = 19%



HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL/EYC SINCE OCTOBER?

- Very confident 29 = 31%
- Confident 51 = 55%
- Concerned 12 = 13%
- Very concerned 1 = 1%



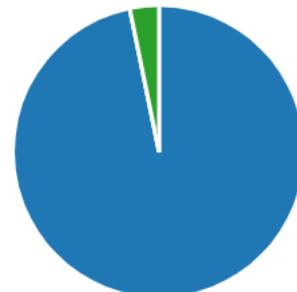
HOW WELL DO YOU FEEL THE SCHOOL AND EYC HAS INFORMED YOU OF THE MITIGATIONS THEY HAVE IN PLACE REGARDING HYGIENE AND CLEANING? (1-POOR 5-EXCELLENT)

93
Responses

4.12
Average Number

WE UNDERSTAND THE CONTINUED NEED FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL/EYC. ARE YOU AWARE OF THE PROCEDURES FOR DOING SO?

- Yes 90 = 97%
- No 0 = 0%
- Unsure 3 = 3%



HOW WELL DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE COMMUNICATION YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE OCTOBER?

93

Responses

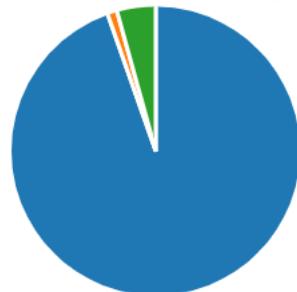
4.29

Average Number

ARE ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES IN PLACE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL/EYC?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

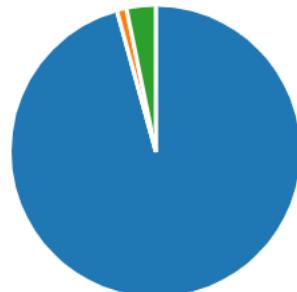
88 = 95%
1 = 1%
4 = 4%



ARE ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE FOR DROP OFF AND PICK UP OF YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN ENSURING LARGE GATHERINGS OF PEOPLE ARE AVOIDED AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING BETWEEN ADULTS IS MAINTAINED, INCLUDING ADULTS WEARING FACE COVERINGS WITHIN SCHOOL GROUNDS?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

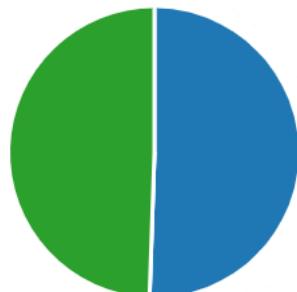
89 = 96%
1 = 1%
3 = 3%



ARE ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL USING SCHOOL TRANSPORT, INCLUDING CHILDREN OVER THE AGE OF 5 WEARING FACE COVERINGS?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

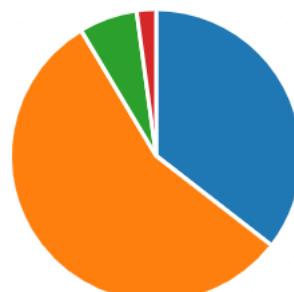
47 = 51%
0 = 0%
46 = 49%



AFTER TWO TERMS IN SCHOOL/EYC, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR CHILD ATTENDING?

- Very confident
- Confident
- Concerned
- Very Concerned

33 = 35%
52 = 56%
6 = 6%
2 = 2%

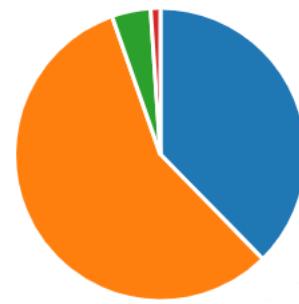


SINCE OCTOBER, BOTH SCHOOL AND EYC HAVE INTRODUCED ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORMS SUCH AS TEAMS AND SEESAW TO ENSURE COMMUNICATION AND LEARNING BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL IS CLEAR AND UP TO DATE. HOW HAVE YOU FOUND THIS?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It's been great ✓ Fine ✓ It's getting better. It was not clear at the start and pupils could change the homework the teacher had put on ✓ Seesaw has been good to see what the nursery children are up to and it's a great way if they have been unsettled going in to let parents know they are happy ✓ Great ✓ I find the use of seesaw an easy and effective way to communicate. I think there have been a few points that could have been communicated through seesaw such as dates for events eg Halloween, Xmas lunch etc. As a parent of a new child to the EYC I do enjoy seeing photos of what he has been up to during the day as it gives a wee idea of what goes on without having physically seen inside the nursery. ✓ Mostly good ✓ Easy to follow ✓ Helpful ✓ OK ✓ Very good and the teacher has been helpful. Easy to locate resources. ✓ It has been fine. Looking forward to getting back to homework jotters and worksheets but for now we are managing fine. ✓ Teams in Pla has been very good. Homework uploaded weekly & very clear instructions/variety of activities within. ✓ Excellent ✓ I like it and would like to get even more pictures and information sent through ✓ Find Teams very convenient and easy to use. ✓ Very good ✓ Starting to understand it ✓ Very useful ✓ Satisfactory ✓ Great ✓ OK ✓ Fantastic ✓ Takes a bit of getting used to but I'm getting there with teams. ✓ Children are confident and able to access teams independently so that has made it very easy! ✓ Absolutely fine ✓ Straight forward and useful ✓ Great ✓ Fine ✓ Easy to understand ✓ Very easy to use ✓ Teams is an excellent tool. No experience of Seesaw ✓ Very helpful, especially when we were having to self-isolate. ✓ Could do with a parental interface, something we could check remotely without logging on to the child's account. Overall a good application though. ✓ Fine. Works well. ✓ Good and easy to access ✓ Seesaw has been very useful, a great method for communication ✓ Much better now everyone knows what they are doing ✓ Really beneficial for children & parents in sharing information & learning. Thank you for implementing this. ✓ This is working well for us though I do still like a homework sheet. ✓ Seesaw isn't used a lot to update me on anything. I know other providers use it daily ✓ It's helpful but there are too many different communication channels ✓ OK ✓ Seesaw is fab app and really helps keep in touch ✓ Not the best as we didn't have compatible device until recently ✓ Okay ✓ Easy to set up and use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Access can be difficult ✓ Good. I only wish in p7 the homework changed in subject ✓ I would benefit from more communication or photographs on seesaw. Important days such as outdoor learning I expected photos but I have not had any photos of my child since before the isolation fortnight ✓ Teams can be overwhelming. I don't think there has been enough communication and support as well. I'm not aware of what my child should know and I feel sometimes I don't know the focus of their homework. ✓ Seesaw very poor, only minimal communication. Thought there would be daily updates on child. However lucky if it's once a week. ✓ It's OK but don't have time to go online much. Prefer books and physical writing ✓ I found teams to work very well for my child who is in P5. The teacher gives prompt and full feedback and I can't fault so far. ✓ This has been very helpful and well organised. I have a child who is currently isolating and he is receiving help and support to continue learning at home. When at school the homework is easy to follow and navigate. ✓ Fine ✓ Excellent it is as far as I'm aware ✓ Some difficulties with log in on different devices. ✓ No feedback on the homework submitted on Teams. ✓ Good, especially teams when my child had to isolate. ✓ It's ok but I prefer jotters and worksheets home. ✓ Only use Teams to gain homework instructions. ✓ Very good ✓ Good ✓ Very effective method of communicating. I feel included in my child's learning with regular updates from on class activities. ✓ Easy to use. Child seems to be able to navigate through it fairly well. Not always clear what child should do with homework once completed. ✓ Teams and seesaw both excellent all questions answered and quick response ✓ found it really easy to access. ✓ I'm slowly getting used to it! ✓ Very difficult as we don't have a computer. ✓ I have a child in school and in EYC. I am happy with teams but feel seesaw could be used more ✓ Teams has been great for home schooling during isolation and also for communication between classmates ✓ Few teething problems but seem to be resolved ✓ Initially some problems with regards to where information was located on Teams. My child is now used to this and we find it easy to use. ✓ Fine, working well ✓ Easy to navigate ✓ Very well ✓ Helpful ✓ Helpful but would like to be able to upload photos of work privately to the teachers ✓ Excellent ✓ Seesaw was wonderful during the isolation, the staff were great providing daily checks with home and children. ✓ Easy to use and quick method of communication. ✓ No issues ✓ Would like more regular updates and pictures ✓ I feel seesaw could be used more often for updates and pictures. ✓ Quite efficient ✓ Easy enough ✓ I find it difficult as it wouldn't allow my daughter to do it on her phone. She doesn't have a computer which makes it difficult to do things online. ✓ Very straight forward and fun ✓ Really like seesaw and being able to see pictures of my child in their learning environment. ✓ Teams has been really good for homework and keeping in touch with teachers. The teachers have even been replying to the kids in the evenings which is going above and beyond their duty!
--	---

WE HAVE BEEN FOCUSING ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF PUPILS SINCE AUGUST. HOW DO YOU FEEL YOUR CHILD IS COPING COMING TO SCHOOL/EYC EACH DAY?

Very Confident	35	= 38%
Confident	53	= 57%
Concerned	4	= 4%
Very Concerned	1	= 1%



IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE CASE WITHIN THE SCHOOL/EYC, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE WAY WE COMMUNICATE INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH AND SUPPORT LEARNING FROM HOME?

Excellent and very helpful	I'm happy with the way everything has been dealt with	It's all handled very well with clear communication
Quick and concise	Great	confident
Fine	Fine	Prompt communication. Good advice given.
Accurately and swiftly	We are well informed	Thankfully neither of my children have been impacted by the positive cases that have occurred however I am sure that the school will continue to deliver the standard of learning that they receive in school, remotely, as during lockdown.
Positive	Good	Confident
It is good	Very good!	Very quickly and efficiently
The school informed us of a positive case in the nursery class but we never heard from track and trace regarding this. The seesaw and zoom calls to the kids were good.	Satisfactory	Basic but prompt information
Very good	Good	Very good.
I think it has been communicated clearly	OK	Good
Conflicting info for person to person	Very well	Very supportive, daily communication and online learning
Mixed answers regarding who isolates.	OK	Handled things really well and was nice to receive a phone call from the school regarding the matter
Track and trace saying siblings can attend school then school saying not if can't be separated. Government guidelines don't state this, only say try to keep distance but siblings and other go about as normal unless symptoms appear then household isolates. Too many people unsure of what to do and now having to take unpaid leave from work	Sometimes emails haven't contained attachments but overall communication is good.	Info is passed on Promptly and school support families very well
Happy	Experienced this and the communication was fine.	Excellent
Well informed	Communication is really good and when my child had to isolate the home learning was excellent.	I feel guidelines are followed
Confident	Good.	No experience
Very well	Very well.	OK
Good	Very well updated	No issues
Wish the school would let us all know exactly what class is isolating as we have to hear through mum groups instead	Good	Fairly Happy
I feel the school communicates in a first-class manner in these incidences.	Good information from public health	Procedure
Excellent. Had good communication from the school app, email and the Head Teacher.	Very clear	Kept up to date
Happy	Fine	Confident
When there was a case in my child's class, I felt worried that it could spread but the more cases there have been in the school, and none have resulted in a break out the more confident I feel that the measures the school have in place are working.	Confident	It's clear
Not experienced home learning, due to isolation, directly however any time there is a positive case, the information is communicated clearly.	Pleased with how things are being dealt with	Seems to be dealt with promptly
Very good	Excellent	Good
Good	It's been handled well, we have been informed very timely and things have been put in place ASAP to support my children	Confident
	Improved	Good
	Very confident that all guidelines and advice is being followed.	Okay
	Brilliant.	Fortunately, my kids haven't had to isolate yet but I have received letters through email and Xpressions to let me know there has been cases in the school. The communication has been great.
	n/a	Confident that the info is timely and clear
	it was handles well	Good
	Am happy with the communications from school and feel they are done in a timely way.	As a parent of a child in one of the classes that had to self-isolate I very much appreciated the personal phone call from school on top of written communication
	Its fine	
	Good communication	
	Very clear information is given	
	Unsure	

PLEASE USE THE BOX BELOW TO ADD ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

- ★ School have been amazing and went above and beyond!
- ★ I would like to see more subjects covered in homework.
- ★ All staff are coping extremely well under the circumstances. It can be difficult to not be allowed to enter the environment where your child spends a massive amount of time so more use of technology would ease concerns and fulfil our feeling of involvement.
- ★ Happy with child at school, however nursery child has come home a few times filthy and soaking wet, they do have dry clothes in their bag to change into but this has never happened we have picked them up and had to walk home with them soaked to their pants some days and hands absolutely filthy, for the school to say they are taking the Covid guideline strongly I have to disagree as my child's hands were not washed for some time and as they are toddler age I expect the teachers to make sure the kids were clean and dry and not frozen it is December after all.
- ★ I feel that you have all done/are doing an excellent job during such difficult circumstances. I was concerned about my wee one starting in the EYC in October as he had become very shy and attached to me during lockdown. I am delighted with how well he has settled and how 'normal' everything has been for him. He is happy and settled - thank you for that.
- ★ Having been contacted by track and trace for close contact within the classroom it became obvious that every parent had been given different information and restrictions. So much confusion and injustice.
- ★ Communication in term 1 was much more frequent than term 2.
- ★ Very happy with the experience my child is having at the ELC.
- ★ My little one has tested positive and the school and teachers have been great organising lessons and communicating with her at home.
- ★ I'm glad my child is at school. If I feel she is in danger health wise I will pull her out. But mentally she needs to be there. And I think the school are doing their best
- ★ Thanks to the Head teacher and all staff in the school for ensuring that everything is in place for the children both in school and at home access to allow their education to continue during this pandemic and for the caring and thoughtful way in which they continue to deliver this service. Thanks again.
- ★ The school have been very good supporting my child and I. Thank you.
- ★ Concerned about how bad behaviour and physical violence is handled in classes and how it effects other children.
- ★ A little more information on what they are doing, eating and learning would be great.
- ★ I think school need to be very careful about the balance between the risk of Covid and ensuring the classroom is still a productive environment for learning as my child is often working with a coat on in class and often comes home freezing due to windows and doors being open all day. Is this conducive to learning?
- ★ Seesaw should be used in the school as it works for EYC.
- ★ All staff at Coylton Primary have done a great job.
- ★ Although we receive a generic letter about a potential contact we aren't officially notified that we're OK to attend school. Appreciate it is track and trace who inform. However, when my child was to self-isolate from a nursery contact I was never contacted by track and trace was only from school. So, feel there is a shortfall on communication here.
- ★ Praise should be given to the teachers and leadership team for communicating and informing families throughout with clear and timely information.
- ★ Being new to the school a little extra information regarding procedures would be helpful. However, the office staff have been happy to answer any questions I've had over the phone.
- ★ Social distancing is still not being well adhered to in the playground by parents, and we see many teachers come in and out of school doors without masks. I have deep concerns about school being back at all regardless of the good work done to prevent spread. I am truly grateful for the work teaching staff have done over the past year, I don't think I am alone in saying that your staff and our children should never have been put in the position you they have been during the worst months of a global pandemic. All the staff have my heartfelt appreciation and admiration for your work during this time.
- ★ Very confident that measures are in place to keep my child safe whilst at school.
- ★ I do not have any concerns.
- ★ Overall, I am very happy with all the school are doing
- ★ Thanks to all staff at school who keep working with the children during this difficult time. Merry Christmas
- ★ We are obviously missing the normal interactive sessions in EYC with parents. Perhaps some more photos of the EYC setup for parents who cannot do a drop off. Thinglink? We think that the school have coped exceptionally well given the number of cases they have had to deal with. We feel lucky to have such a great school as our catchment and feel that management have done a super job despite difficult times. Thank you.
- ★ Adults need to take onboard that they still need to maintain social distancing once out of the school grounds
- ★ It would be nice to have more photos/info on Twitter for P2/3 class
- ★ I would like more communication via seesaw with maybe a few pictures each week. If it's not the key worker bring my child out at night I don't get much info I just get given my child.
- ★ It has been very hard due to circumstances, however the excellent staff at the EYC have definitely helped to ease that, always helpful with any questions I may have had. Some more pictures via seesaw would be good but certainly not a criticism.
- ★ Pupils doing pe indoors and in classes. Also mixing outside in playgrounds. Schools does great in general but these points are concerning.
- ★ The school has coped well.
- ★ I think Coylton Primary have dealt with all the changes really well. The rules are sent out weekly in our weekly update letter and any changes are sent via the Xpressions app or email. If I had any issues I would phone or email the school and I would be confident that someone would answer my query.
- ★ I feel Coylton primary have dealt with the situation brilliantly and I have every confidence in them