

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: 12.2.21



Dear Parents and Carers



Good morning to all our families. It is hard to believe that we are about to break for our half term holiday. This year, we have an extension to the usual long weekend, and school and EYC will be closed from 3pm on Friday 12th February and will resume on Monday 22nd February.



As mentioned last week, it is our understanding that from Monday 22nd February, pupils in EYC, P1, P2 and P3 classes will be able to return to school. The Scottish Government will hopefully confirm this information soon. Staff in school have been preparing for this return, and in order to do so safely, we will outline the additional mitigations we will put in place, as well as remind families of the procedures already in place.



The Scottish Government have yet to set out plans for the physical return to school for pupils in P4, 5, 6 and 7 classes. From Monday 22nd February, the expectation will be that pupils in those classes will continue to engage in remote learning. Staff will take the holiday week to recharge the batteries, and will then be available and ready to set learning for all on Monday 22nd. They will continue with videos outlining learning, as well as having at least one live check in meeting every day. There may be a change to these live meeting times, but staff will let children know through Teams of any changes.

Childcare Hub for children of Key Workers and vulnerable learners from P4-7 will continue as usual from Monday 22nd February. Please note, the child care hubs WILL NOT be operating over the February holiday week which is 15th Feb – 19th Feb.



Bringing our EYC and P1-3 pupils back means additional mitigations will be put in place. Before the holidays, some staff chose to wear a mask when working directly with children. Coming back, the children will see staff wearing masks much more often. They are used to seeing adults wearing masks now, and so I don't think it will impact their time at school. Staff will make judgment calls on this. There is no need for children to wear masks unless they wanted to. They are of course, welcome to do so.



In order to ensure social distancing in the playground, we are going to make a small change to timings for the school day. There will be a soft start from 8:50am as usual for all children in P1-3, where doors will be open and children know to go straight into school without lining up. Where possible, we ask that parents who are dropping off allow the children to do this without being in the playground for too long. Please do not bring children to school before 8:50am.

At 2:50pm, we ask that all children in both P1 classes are collected. Parents should come into the playground and social distance using the marked areas to do so. Staff will bring children out to match up with parents. Parents should leave the playground as quickly as possible to make way for parents of p2 and 3 children.

Parents for children in P2 and 3 classes should pick them up from the playground at 3pm, social distancing, using the marked areas. Staff will bring children out to match up with parents. Parents should leave the playground as quickly as possible.

We thank you for your support in trying to ensure that there are not large numbers of parents in the playground at any one time. It is also worth reminding parents that masks SHOULD be worn within all areas of the school grounds, and that the school car park SHOULD NOT be used for drop off or pick up.



Adults in school will always maintain at least 2m social distance between themselves and their colleagues. We will be working with the children to try to ensure there is more distance than we had before between adults and children during work tasks. Children do not need to social distance from other children, but we will be talking to them on their return about the distance between them and the adults they work with at times throughout the school day.



Lunches for EYC, P1-3 children, as well as those attending the Hub will be as follows:

Week 2	Sandwich	Soup	Main	Dessert
Monday	Chicken Sandwich		Roast Turkey with Baby Potatoes and Vegetables	Iced Gingerbread with or without Custard
Tuesday	Cheese Sandwich	Lentil Soup	Salmon Fish Fingers with Mash and Peas	
Wednesday	Turkey Sandwich		Chicken Curry with Rice and Naan	Fruit Salad
Thursday	Tuna Sandwich		Pasta Bolognese with Carrots	Ice Sponge with or without custard.
Friday	Cheese Sandwich		Sausages, Mash and Beans	Ice Cream

EYC children will continue to eat lunch in the playrooms, and P1-3 children will have lunch delivered to their classrooms.



To our staff, I want to say thank you so much for going over and above to teach and support remotely. Staff continue to upskill themselves in terms of IT and creativity, as well as reach out to individual families to do what is required to get things right for them. I know they need a break, to switch off the laptops and take time for themselves. I say it often, but we really do have an amazing staff team here in our school and EYC



With Valentine's Day just around the corner, we also want to say thank you and send love to our children and families. You have responded so well to these challenging times, working harder than ever and for many, many families, this has been on top of juggling work commitments, family life, and ill health too. We miss you all, and can't wait till we can have everyone back where they belong. Spread the love to each other too and remember to be kind! P1-3 classes will have a short story uploaded to Teams today for parents to look over with them. The story is really just to talk through feelings returning to school, and we hope it might help if any of our children are feeling a little anxious.



Have a safe and relaxing week. The First Minister is expected to make an announcement on Tuesday regarding the confirmation of the return to school for EYC-P£. If there is anything I need to update you about, I will do so before the end of next week!

Mrs Donnelly x