

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers



Hello to all our families. Today marks the last day of remote learning! For some, this will be a very positive thing as it means that face to face learning will resume, and with it the reconnection of pupils to pupils and or pupils to staff. It will bring routine and structure to families and to staff who will be able to work with pupils as individuals to ensure gaps in learning are identified and worked on. For others, the return to school may bring with it some anxiety as it has been quite some time since we were all together. Our focus will be on the wellbeing of our children and similarly to when EYC-P3 returned, we will be taking things at the children's pace next week.

It is worth noting, that positive cases of Covid are continuing to be reported across areas of South Ayrshire and so it is still vitally important that we all play our part in keeping the transmission rate as low as possible. 2m distance between pupils is not required, but we will be encouraging that they do consider the physical proximity to one another, especially out in the playground where we are actively discouraging games which involve touch.

Many Thanks!



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who have manned the Hub for Key Workers children during the lockdown period. We have very much appreciated your creativity, flexibility and the support offered to our children each day. I don't underestimate the challenges faced with various attendance patterns and various levels of engagement from our children. Let us hope that we are not in the position of requiring this service again. I hope that the Key worker parents have felt supported by our staff during this time.



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.



Bringing our P4-7 pupils back means additional mitigations will be put in place.

Last time they were in school, 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.



Claire from Active Schools will come and work outdoors with P4-7 classes from now until Easter. Although school uniform is advised on the return to school, pupils should wear appropriate outdoor clothing on the following days:

- P4 Monday
- P4/5 Thursday
- P5 Tuesday
- P6 Monday
- P6/7 Thursday
- P7 Tuesday

It is worth noting that windows in all areas of school are open throughout the school day to increase ventilation. We would advise that children do wear layers as at times, it can be a little chilly.



Similarly to P1-3, we will have a soft start to the return for P4-7 children. P4-5 pupils will come in the middle doors from 8:50 without lining up, and P6-7 will come in the side doors at this time too. We are asking children NOT to come to school in advance of 8:50 as they will not be able to gather in groups within the playground. This is really important, and we will monitor this and report back to you next week on how well this has gone. There is no early finish for P4-7 children. They will all come out at 3pm and again, we are encouraging them to disperse and head home straight away. We are also hoping that P4-7 parents are able to have their children enter and exit the playground independently to help with the number of adults in our school campus.



LET'S GO LUNCH Lunches for P1-7 will be following the reduced menu that we have had in place for a few weeks now. The menu for next week is as follows:

Week 2	Sandwich	Soup	Main	Dessert
Monday	Chicken Sandwich		Roast Turkey with baby potatoes and veg	Iced Gingerbread with or without Custard
Tuesday	Cheese Sandwich	Lentil	Burgers with roast potatoes and peas	
Wednesday	Turkey Sandwich		Chicken Curry with boiled rice	Fruit Salad

Thursday	Tuna Sandwich		Pasta bolognaise with carrots	Iced sponge with or without custard.
Friday	Cheese Sandwich		Sausages with beans and mashed potatoes	Ice Cream

ALL children will have lunch delivered to their classrooms.

SIGN ME UP



Thank you to all families who have taken time to complete the Transition survey. We have left the survey open over the weekend for those who still wish to complete it. Please note, if you don't want to complete the survey but do want to attend the virtual event with Ayr Academy staff on March 23rd, please get in touch with your email address and we will ensure you are included in the Zoom meeting. The link for the survey is: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKSIJ4OBJDEBJotUmbdU3zPtUMFUzNU84SKNNMFBHVFI2QUdBNkdfMzQ3TS4u>



Comic Relief Day is Friday March 19th this year. I am delighted that Miss Morrison, and the children of P3 have taken some ownership of the organization of a few fun tasks linked to this charitable event. We are hoping that by raising awareness of the charity, families may wish to donate at home. We will not be asking for donations this year in school. More details of this will follow. Great leadership P3!!!

Can I help you?



As always, we are here and we are listening. I would like to thank our families and school community for working with us throughout this challenging school term. We hope that you have felt supported by our staff and by the very high quality of the remote learning experiences set by our teachers. We have a few weeks until the Easter break and we will use this time wisely to ensure that we have a really positive Term 4 and finish the year on a high! We have not been using Twitter since we locked down, but I know you will start to see an increase in our use of this platform to showcase our learning from next week on!

Mrs Donnelly

