



**Shetland  
Islands  
Council**



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18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope everyone enjoys the long weekend and manages to have some quality time together during these challenging times.

The First Minister has confirmed that from next week children in ELC and P1-3 can return to in-person learning. Therefore, we look forward to welcoming our learners in P1-3 back to Ollaberry Primary School on Tuesday 23 February 2021. All previous control measures and mitigations will remain in place. The majority of learners in P4-7 will still be engaging in remote learning until further notice from the Scottish Government.

Within the updated guidance for this phased re-opening it states:

"No other restrictions are being eased in order to provide the headroom to support an initial return of some learners and therefore ensuring the right behaviours. For example, parents should avoid contacts with other parents, children and young people at the school gates, on the way to school and after school in order to try and reduce community spread/outbreaks. "

The First Minister said that another announcement will be made in two weeks, around Tuesday 02 March. She said that no further pupils are likely to return before Monday 15 March 2021.

Please only drop off children to school if everyone in your household or extended household is well. Parents and carers should not enter the school building and are reminded to adhere to 2m distancing when collecting or dropping off their children and to please wear a face covering.

#### **Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing Programme: School Staff**

In line with Scottish Government advice a Covid-19 Asymptomatic Testing Programme, is available to all staff in school. Staff at Ollaberry Primary School are engaging with this programme.

**Physical Education**

Updated guidance states the PE will take place outdoors unless it is unsafe to do so. Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for outdoor PE.

**Personal Possessions and Equipment for Learning**

Pupils should take the minimum of personal possessions to school. All pupils have their own pack of tools for learning at school and other children will not touch this. Please can you ensure your child takes a refillable water bottle and snack with them each day. If your child has been given a digital device to support their learning, as agreed, this needs to be taken into school each day. Devices will be cleaned on arrival and departure. Shared use will not be encouraged unless by siblings.

**Remote Learning for P4-7 Pupils**

Remote learning will continue for pupils in P4-7. Please can I remind everyone that as per remote learning guidance and protocols, pupils need to be in a shared area of their home during the 'live' daily check in with the class teacher and not in e.g. a bedroom.

Finally, we are currently living in a time of extreme change and it is difficult to plan too far in advance. Understandably, some children may feel anxious about returning to school. We want to support all our learners and we would encourage you to get in touch with us by telephone or email to discuss any concerns you may have about your P1-3 child's return to school.

Kind regards

Julia McGinlay

Acting Head Teacher