



St Eugene's Primary School

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19th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Earlier this week the Northern Ireland Executive announced that all primary aged children will return to face to face teaching from Monday 22nd March 2021. I know this is the news that many of you have been waiting for and we are incredibly excited to have all our boys and girls back together once again.

Whilst we are delighted with the news we must still remember that Covid-19 has not gone away. We will continue to follow our safety mitigations, children and staff will have a temperature check on arrival, everyone will wash their hands on arrival, before and after food, after outdoor play, after toileting and before departure. You can help your child by reinforcing good hand hygiene at home, always using water before soap, washing for 20 seconds, properly rinsing soap and making sure hands are completely dry, this will help avoid skin irritation. You may wish to send a small hand cream for your child's pocket if you begin to notice any irritation. Children will remain in protective class bubbles and canteen service will take place in the classrooms.

We ask that parents do not exit their vehicle unless absolutely necessary particularly during morning drop off, at home time please stand by your vehicle and staff will see the children out. If you need to exit your vehicle, please ensure you are wearing a face covering and keep a 2 metre distance from others at all times. Parents are no longer permitted past the green gate at the play area. These steps are vital to protect your child, our staff and the wider community.

Children should bring only a lunch box and coat to school. Bags and other items are not permitted. All pupils should wear PE uniform on Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow for daily washing of clothes. Any child presenting as unwell or with symptoms of Covid-19 should remain at home. Children should also remain at home if a member of the household is unwell or has symptoms of Covid-19, a test should be booked and the entire household must isolate. If your child or a close contact tests positive, you must inform the school as soon as possible. We all have a part to play to keep our community safe and schools open.

School transport will resume on Monday and remember the EA advise that all children travelling on their transport should wear a face covering. Our catering service will also resume, with an exciting new menu being rolled out. We are unable to offer our 2.15 club or our Breakfast Club as directed by DE. We hope that these restrictions will be lifted soon and that we can offer you these services again after the Easter break. Working parents are permitted to drop their children off from 8.45am at no additional cost whilst the Breakfast Club remains out of operation.

All children in P1 and P2 will need collected at 2.15pm and P3-7 at 3.15pm with the exception of P3 who finish at 2.15pm on a Friday. Children will finish for our Easter break on Wednesday 31st of March at 12.30pm. Term Three will begin on Monday 12th April.

Yours sincerely

Laura Gormley

Principal