



Education Resources
Executive Director Tony McDaid
Loch Primary School
Acting Head Teacher: Dawn Simpson

Returning to Loch PS during Covid-19

Dear parents/carers,

We would like to say a big thank you for your patience and support throughout lockdown. You should have now received a letter with your child's allocated days and their start/stop time. If you have not received this, please contact the school with your updated email address/contact number. We have worked hard to organise our school into two groups, taking into account siblings and friendships where we can. Social distancing measures will be in place in all areas of the school. We hope these measures will be temporary and we hope to be back together as soon as it is safe to do so. These measures that are in place just now are subject to change in response to daily updates from the Scottish Government. We ask that you discuss these changes with your child to prepare them for the changes ahead.

Returning to school:

- Staff will return to school on Tuesday 11th August for an in-service day (no pupils will attend).
- Group 1 will return on Wednesday 12th August (please note, the following week will revert back to Monday/Tuesday).
- Group 2 will return on Thursday 13th August.

Timings of the school day:

- To minimise large groups and to ensure social distancing measures are in place, there will be staggered start and stop times for all children (please see your child's letter). There will also be various entrances/exits used. We ask that you ensure your child arrives and is picked up at the allocated times to minimise overcrowding and to observe social distancing rules. We ask that you wait outside the playground with your child if you arrive prior to your child's start time. When picking up your child, please arrive at the allocated time. We ask that parents/carers collecting a child from Primary 1 wait at the gate to the playground and all other parents/carers wait beyond this point.
- As we will be using our entrance next to the school MUGA pitch, our school car park will be closed during drop-off and pick-up times to ensure the safety of all. It will only be opened for SLC transport, staff and for pupils who require additional support.
- Unfortunately at this time, no parents/carers are allowed in the school building or within the playground gates. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please contact the school office on 0141 634 7217.
- The school breakfast club will not be able to operate until further notice.

Uniform:

- All pupils should wear their full school uniform as normal to school. We ask that children bring a change of shoes for indoors (gym shoes). These indoor shoes will remain within school.

- Pupils should continue to bring their school bag to school. Bags will hang on the back of the children's seats.
- Each pupil will be provided with a stationary pack to use within school which will only be used by them. This will be kept in school. If anyone requires support with home learning resources, please contact the school in the new session.

Lunches:

- All children will eat their lunches within their classrooms. The pupils will be given an option of lunches (hot/cold) and this will be served to them to minimise movement.
- Pupils are allowed to bring their own packed lunch from home. If possible, this should be brought in a bag to allow for quick disposal. If your child brings a packed lunch box, this should remain in their school bag.
- Children are allowed to bring a water bottle to school. As always, this should be cleaned every night at home and should be filled with plain water only.

Playtimes/Lunchtime:

- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure social distancing measures are in place. Each class will be allocated a section of the playground and should remain in this 'bubble' throughout the breaks. Areas will be rotated weekly to ensure all areas can be explored.

The School Day:

- Please refer to "Returning to Loch PS During Covid-19" on our school website (http://www.loch-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/index_457_4140497715.pdf).
- We are keen to keep the school day as 'normal' as possible. The key focus will be on Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy. Other areas of the curriculum will also be taught. Staff will continue to plan to suit the needs and interests of our children.
- Outdoor learning will be encouraged so please make sure your child has appropriate shoes/wellies for outdoors and a waterproof jacket.
- Home learning will consist of online learning using Google Classrooms as well as paper-based activities. We encourage all families to ensure you have signed up to use Google Classrooms as this will greatly support your child's learning.
- Your child will participate in PE either outdoors or indoors. If possible, a pair of gym shorts and a polo shirt should be worn on these days (under school uniform if possible).

Procedures for Unwell Children:

- If any child is feeling unwell on the morning they are due to attend school, they must remain at home.
- Any child displaying Covid-19 symptoms will be brought to the PT Office and parents/carers will be called to collect them immediately.
- All parents/carers must follow NHS and Scottish Government advice for suspected Covid-19 cases which can be found on the NHS website.
- Please inform the school immediately if you or any of the family have tested positive for Covid-19 or have been contacted by the Test and Trace Team.

Social Distancing and Hand Washing Procedures:

- Children can wear masks at school if they or their parent/carer wishes. This is not compulsory.
- All classes are set out to ensure 2-metre social distancing is in place. Please speak to your child about the importance of maintaining the 2-metre social distance from other children and staff.
- We have social distancing markers around the school and all staircases will be one-way.

- Handwashing is the best way to prevent the spread of germs. All pupils will be asked to wash their hands regularly throughout the day. We have hand sanitisers and soap dispensers installed in all classes, toilets and open areas. We would encourage pupils to wash their hands before coming to school and again on their return home.

We realise that adjusting to these new procedures and routines will take time and may change but staff will be here to support the children and to ensure they feel comfortable within the school environment.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the information provided, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

We can't wait to welcome our pupils back to school and look forward to being back together again! I hope you all have a wonderful summer break and we will see you in the new session.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerley,

Dawn Simpson
Acting Head Teacher
23.6.20

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