



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

Returning to Loch PS during Covid-19

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you are all safe and well and enjoyed the summer holiday. You should now have received your update for your child's return to school on a phased basis from Wednesday 12th August and on a full-time basis from Monday 17th August. Below is some information which I hope you will find useful which you can share with your child for their return to school.

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. 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. When waiting for your child, please do not congregate and please ensure you keep a 2-metre distance and adhere to social distancing guidelines at all times.
- 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 blue badge holders. For this reason, we ask that you consider different travel arrangements such as park and stride, walking or cycling to school.
- Unfortunately at this time, no parents/carers are allowed in the school building or within the playground gates. Staff members will also be unable to speak to parents/carers at the school gates at this time. 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 remain on the floor at the children's desks.
- Pupils can bring in their own stationery for their own use. Each pupil will be provided with a stationery pack to use within school which will only be used by them. This will be kept in school.
- For hygiene reasons, no toys will be allowed in school - please ensure your child does not bring any toys to school to support us with this.

- Please ensure all of your child's clothing items and belongings are clearly marked with your child's name.

Lunches:

- Lunches will be staggered to reduce the number of children in the dining hall at one time.
- Pupils are allowed to bring their own packed lunch from home if they wish. If possible, this should be brought in a bag to allow for quick disposal. If your child brings a packed lunch box, this should fit inside 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. We will be unable to provide drinks in classes so pupils are encouraged to bring their own water from home.

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:

- 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.
- 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) to avoid having to change.

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 your 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.
- Please speak to your child about the importance of maintaining the 2-metre social distance where possible from 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.

Please check our school website regularly and if you do not already do so, please follow us on Twitter (**@LochPrimary**) as we will post regular updates and important information here. Please keep the school updated with changes of phone numbers or email addresses as we frequently send out information through our school app.

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!

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Simpson
Acting Head Teacher
11.8.20

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