



Principal: Mrs A Burton B Ed (Hons) PQH

August 2021

Dear Parent /Guardian

Return to School Information

School Principals received the updated advice from the Department of Education this week and based on this guidance and that of the current Public Health Advice the following arrangements will be in place for the start of the new school year.

It is important that measures are put in place that ensure the safety of all staff, pupils and their families as well as the wider community. Hopefully restrictions will ease as we make our way through the year. Maintaining good hygiene standards and limiting social interaction both inside and outside the school will continue to ensure a safe and protective environment for the children.

Please note the following:

1. All adult visitors, including Parents/Guardians, should continue to wear face coverings and maintain the 2 metre distancing rule whilst in the school grounds.
2. We will no longer have staggered times but will return to normal school hours:
 - **Nursery and Primary 1** – to follow the group times as directed by their teachers at the end of June for September and October.
 - **Primary 2 and Primary 3** – we are trialling new school hours this year in line with some of the other local Primary Schools in the area:
 - **Primary 2** will finish at 2.15pm Monday to Thursday and at 2pm on a Friday.
 - **Primary 3** will finish at 2.10pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and will stay until 3pm every Tuesday and Thursday.
 - **Primary 4 to primary 7** will finish at 3pm Monday to Thursday and at 2.10pm on a Friday.

School starts at 8.55am every morning.

3. The children will continue to use different gates to access the playground area in the morning and will leave using the same gates in the afternoon, similar to last year. Attending adults are not permitted past the gates into the back playground.

The gates are as follows:

- **Nursery and P1** to use Nursery door entrance
- **P2 Mrs Murray and P3 Miss Campbell** to use the entrance gates beside the Nursery Unit.
- **P3/4 Miss Lee, P4 Miss Gillespie, P5 Mrs Tinney and P5 Mrs Thompson/Mrs Mills** to use the entrance gates from the main car park.
- **P6 and P7** children to use the back gates leading on to the Linear Park play area.

**Knocknagoney Primary School & Nursery Unit
Knocknagoney Road, Belfast, BT4 2NR**

Tel: 028 90 76 8496

Children are not to congregate at the gates but are to go through into the playground to their designated lining up area. Staff will be in attendance from 8.45am on the first morning (27th August) to supervise.

4. The school car park will be open for parents/guardians but please drive slowly and carefully following the one-way system and parking in the designated parking bays. Please be patient with and respectful to other drivers.

5. School bags, book bags and pencil cases are allowed into the classrooms. Please make sure that all items of equipment and uniform are named.

6. Wrap around Care Services will start as follows;

Sunrise Club 8am-9am every morning, cost £1.50, will start from Friday 27th August.

Waiting Club for P1 – P3 will start from Wednesday 1st September, 2-3pm daily, costing £3 a day. All payments will be through School Money.

We will not be starting After-school Sports Clubs in September but hope to be able to resume these again in October. Further information will follow later.

Finally, remember that Friday 27th August and Tuesday 31st August are half days where the children all finish at 12pm. There are no dinners being served on these days.

Monday 30th August is a Bank Holiday and the school is closed.

The first full day for the children in P2 to P7 starts on Wednesday 1st September and there are school dinners being served.

I did not think that these measures would still be required for this academic year but unfortunately we are still not out of this pandemic yet!

I would like to thank you for your words of encouragement and support over the past two years and ask that you continue to support the staff and the school as we endeavour to fight our way back to a normal school life where we can provide the wide range of services and activities we had before Covid.

Take care and keep safe.

Mrs A Burton
Principal

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