



# Returning to School

The First Minister stated in Parliament on Tuesday that Primary 4 – 7 could return to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of March, conditional on continued progress on suppressing coronavirus (COVID 19). We are pleased to be able to share with you further detail about our plans for the return of these pupils.

The Guidance issued by the Scottish Government reiterates the need for schools to continue to follow strict COVID-19 control measures and in keeping with the guidance, we have reviewed access and egress arrangements to ensure that we limit opportunities for children and parents to congregate. Staff, will routinely be reminding/guiding your child to maintain regular handwashing, consider 2m distancing from staff and not share resources with others to ensure that everyone does all they can to keep themselves and members of their family safe.

P4-7 staff will also work with pupils online next week to ensure that pupils understand the expectations and controls in place for everyone in school, they will address any questions the pupils have and hopefully help to ease any anxieties.

A return to school for pupils is not to be seen as a return to normal practices and parents/carers must remember to support the strict COVID-19 controls in place by not congregating at the school gates or in the playground and remembering FACTS. As we welcome back our pupils, I ask you to help us by ensuring that you keep a strict 2m distance between yourself and other households during drop off and pick up and continue to follow the general advice to wear face coverings when around others out with your household. Schools will only be able to remain open if there is clear evidence that the return has not impacted negatively on levels of community transmission, so we are keen to minimise any risk by following this guidance closely. Our updated Risk Assessment is available on our website: <https://broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/RA-Inspection-Education-Broomhill-School-Level-4-Updated-22.2.21.pdf>

## Planning our return

### P4-7 Classes:

Pupils in P4-7 will return to school and will be taught by their usual class teacher:

P4 Rm 10 – Miss Wagg	P4 Rm 16 – Miss McClosky/Mrs Webster
P5 Rm 19 – Mrs Gardner/Mrs Sealy	P5 Rm 20 – Mrs Morrison/Mrs Gordon
P6 Rm 15 – Miss Robertson	P6 Rm 12 – Mr King
P7 Rm 21 – Mrs Powell	P7 Rm 22 – Miss Wallace

### Entry and Exit

Arrangements for entry and exit to the school playground will continue as before, with the same timings. (as detailed below).

Room/Stage	Entry/Exit Door	Start Time	Lunch Time	Home Time
Rm 13 P3/4	Senior Door	9.05am	12.30pm – 1.10pm	3.00pm
Rm 10 P4	Senior Door	9.00am	12.30pm – 1.10pm	2.55pm
Rm 16 P4	Front Door	9.05am	1.10pm – 1.50pm	3.00pm
Rm 19 P5	Front Door	9.00am	1.10pm – 1.50pm	2.55pm
Rm 20 P5	Front Door	9.10am	12.30pm – 1.10pm	3.05pm
Rm 15 P6	Senior Door	9.05pm	1.10pm – 1.50pm	3.00pm
Rm 12 P6	Front Door	8.55am	12.30pm – 1.10pm	2.50pm
Rm 21 P7	Senior Door	9.10am	1.10pm – 1.50pm	3.05pm
Rm 22 P7	Senior Door	9.10am	1.10pm – 1.50pm	3.05pm

As previously, pupils should enter via the gate closest to their lining up area, staff will be on hand to direct and support pupils.

*P1-3 Timings will continue as previously communicated.*

Parents and carers are reminded that the return to school does not indicate a return to normality and parents/carers dropping off/collecting pupils from school should adhere to the following guidance:

- Parents/carers are encouraged to remind their child that the time in the playground first thing in the morning is a time for lining up and preparing to enter the building, this is not to be used as an opportunity to be socialising with pupils from other classes.
- Parents/carers should adhere strictly to drop off/collection times and time their arrival accordingly to avoid any unnecessary gathering. Pupils should not be arriving in school before their designated time unless accompanying a sibling.
- Pupils should be collected/dropped off by only one adult.
- Parents/carers should not enter the school playground in the morning unless absolutely necessary to support their child. School Staff will be on hand in the playground to offer support if required.
- Once your child is in the playground, parents should leave the area and not stand to observe or congregate in the surrounding area. There are staff on hand to supervise in the playground and at the gates.
- At the end of the day a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be in the playground to support the exit of pupils. Parents/Carers are reminded that 2m distancing must be maintained.
- Any parent/carer/visitor to the school grounds must wear a face covering at all times.
- Walking to and from school is encouraged to avoid traffic congestion.



## Arrangements for Breaks

Classes and groups will continue to stay together as 'bubbles' and will not be mixing with other classes in the playground or in the lunch hall. As our building work continues to impact on our playground space, classes will continue to be timetabled for time in the playground throughout the morning with the P7 classes using 'The Woodies' for break. Strict arrangements will continue to be in place to ensure distancing between classes at breaks and lunchtimes and when moving around the school building.

## PE

Current Level 4 restrictions mean that PE will continue to be taught outside. On return to school, your child's class teacher will let you know their timetabled PE and outdoor times so that your child can come to school dressed accordingly.

## Pupils who are currently shielding or isolating

If your child is currently shielding on the advice of NHS then they should continue to do so. Please make contact with the school office to confirm this.

If your family is required to isolate, activities will be provided in the Google Classroom if your child is well enough to engage with learning.

A reminder that *Advice for Pupils and Parents about Digital Learning Online* is available on our website:

<https://broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Digital-Learning-Advice-for-Pupils-and-Parents.pdf>

Any family returning from abroad should follow the guidance regarding Managed Isolation:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-international-travel-quarantine/pages/what-you-must-do/>

## Staffing

We are fortunate to have been able to ensure consistency in teaching staff across our classes, limiting changes for our pupils. Parents/carers are reminded that the introduction of twice weekly testing for school staff may mean that changes have to be put in place at short notice, if for example a member of staff is required to isolate until further testing can be carried out.

## Curriculum Focus

As pupils return to school there will be a continued focus on Health and Wellbeing, as a priority and of course, literacy and numeracy. As always, assessment is an ongoing part of our work in school but this will take some time. I encourage all parents to be patient and allow everyone a chance to settle back into school and readjust. School staff will contact you if there are any difficulties or concerns about your child.

## School Lunches

We returned to the provision of the full School Meal Menu on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Please take time to discuss the menu with your child prior to their return. Details are available here:

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Primary%20School%20Menu%20Winter%2720-1%281%29.pdf>

## Chromebooks

If you have a school Chromebook at home, please keep this for now, we'll make arrangements for their return once the pupils are back in school.

Weekly updates to parents/carers will continue in the following weeks as we monitor our systems and procedures and assess the impact of our return to school. Please continue to follow all of the guidance in place and keep up to date with communication from school each week. Weekly updates are also posted on our website for reference.

<https://broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk/about/school-newsletters/>

Following the return to school, all parents should communicate with school using the school email address, teachers Gmail addresses used during remote learning will not be monitored regularly from this point.

We thank you for your ongoing support as we navigate through these times. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at [broomhill@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:broomhill@aberdeencity.gov.uk).

Take care and stay safe.

Mrs D Reid (Head Teacher)