

Donemana Primary School Restart Plan

June 2020



Donemana Primary School will, as always, put the needs of our pupils first. The plan detailed in this document will be flexible and adapted as appropriate considering PHA and DE guidance, and the needs of our children. We recognise the huge impact the situation will have had on our families and will do our best to support our community as we move from 'Lockdown' to the 'New Normal'. Our key focus will always be on the health and well-being of our pupils and staff.

Key aims:

- To support the health and well-being of our pupils and staff.
- To reengage our pupils with learning and school life.
- To nurture the development of independent learning.

Key considerations:

- DE Guidance
- DE / EA risk assessments
- Safety measures
- Cleaning regime and procedures
- School premises – size of classrooms, hand washing facilities, entrance and exit procedures etc.
- Staff deployment
- PHA guidelines
- Adaptations to existing policies

Dear Parent,

In consultation with staff and our school's Board of Governors, an immense amount of planning has taken place to agree a best way forward for our school, in line with current PHA and DE guidance.

We are very mindful of the importance of safety and cooperating with the Government guidelines as we strive to find a 'new normal' in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The information in this document will provide you with an overview of our restart plans. This document is to be **viewed as a point in time** as we may not know exact details until late August as Government guidelines change. We have planned the best we can but please be mindful that this is a very **fluid situation**.

It is our current intention to begin with **Plan C** in September with the hope of progressing to Plan B by the Halloween break (dependent upon PHA/DE advice, social distancing requirements and success of measures implemented during Plan C).

Plan A	Plan B	Plan C	Plan D
Whole School Back School is fully operational with all aspects of school life running normally.	Whole School Back Each class operates as a 'bubble'. Focus on Pastoral Support, health and well-being, numeracy and literacy. Dinners/packed lunches eaten in the classroom.	School is back through blended learning Pupils attend school 2 days each week and participate in remote learning 3 days each week. Family groups attend school on the same days.	Lockdown – School is Closed Pupils and staff are fully engaged in remote learning
No breakfast club / after school provision in operation (to be kept under constant review)			

Plan summary

- 'Bubble' system in operation – Group A children attend school Mondays and Tuesdays, Group B children attend school Thursdays and Fridays for the month of September with the hope to return to five days per week by the Halloween break (subject to review and DE/PHA guidance)
- Staggered start and finish times
- Blended learning with pupils attending school 2 days per week and having 3 days remote learning at home.
- Family groups will be in school on the same days.
- No Breakfast Club, After School Activities or homework club (this will be reviewed regularly)

Class Bubble

Each class will be split into two groups, A and B, and will be known as a 'Bubble'. Each bubble will be its own separate entity and will not mix with any other bubble during the school day, including break and lunch times.

Group A children attend school Mondays and Tuesdays.

Group B children attend school Thursdays and Fridays.

You will receive a text message informing them you of which group your child(ren) are in.

Siblings will be in the same group therefore in school on the same days.

Children will eat their lunch within their classroom and will have allocated toilet times.

Bubble teachers will be:

P1: Mrs Young and Miss Sayers

P2/3: Miss Nutt

P4/5: Mrs McCusker and Mrs Hay

P5/6: Mr Potts

P7: Mrs Timoney

Return Dates

P7 Group A: Monday 24th August and Tuesday 25th August and every Monday and Tuesday from then on

P7 Group B: Thursday 27th August and Friday 28th August and every Thursday and Friday from then on.

P2 – P6 Group A attend Tuesday 25th August and then every Monday and Tuesday going forward.

P2 – P6 Group B attend Thursday 27th August and then every Thursday and Friday going forward.

P1 Group A attend Wednesday 26th August 10am – 12noon and then every Monday and Tuesday going forwards (times below)

P1 Group B attend Friday 28th August 10am – 12noon and then every Thursday and Friday going forwards (times below)

Arrival at school

To minimise the number of people at the school gates there will staggered arrival and collection times.

Temperatures may be taken on arrival.

Parents must stay with pupils until they enter the school gate. Parents are asked not to enter the school grounds.

1 meter social distancing markers will be on the pavement to show children where to stand while waiting to make their way through the school gate.

Children presenting with ANY Covid-19 symptoms MUST NOT ATTEND school until fully recovered to minimise the risk to others.

Group A			Group B		
Surname	Arrival time	Collection time	Surname	Arrival time	Collection time
A – C	8.45	2.15	A - C	8.45	2.15
D - H	9.00	2.30	D - M	9.00	2.30
I - P	9.15	2.45	N - T	9.15	2.45
Q - Z	9.30	3.00	U - Z	9.30	3.00

Upon return to a more usual timetable home times will revert to normal i.e. 2pm for P1 and P2, 3pm for P3 – P7.

During September P1 home time remains at 1pm. Siblings can be collected at this time with no impact on attendance if this is more convenient for parents.

P1 children will progress to the back playground

P2/3 children will line up on the front grass spaced apart.

P4/5 children will line up on the number snake spaced apart.

P5/6 children will line up on the alphabet snake spaced apart.

P7 children will line up in front of the storage hut spaced apart.

Hygiene

Pupils will use hand sanitiser as they enter the school and will immediately proceed to wash their hands before taking their seat in the classroom.

Children will be asked to wash their hands frequently during the school day.

Classrooms will have cleaning products which the class teacher will use throughout the day to clean frequently touched surfaces.

Children are asked to bring clean paper tissues in their pocket to school each day.

Covid-19 Symptoms

If any child presents with any Covid-19 symptoms (high temperature, continuous cough, change in taste/smell) they will be removed from the bubble and taken to the isolation room to await collection by a parent. All parents of children within that bubble will be contacted and in line with the 'Test, Trace and Protect' programme 'Staff or pupils who have been part of the same protective bubble as someone who has / develops symptoms and / or tests positive for Covid-19, must... self-isolate for the required 14 days'. All members of their household should also follow appropriate guidance as provided by PHA as a bubble is essentially an extension of a household.

Home time

At home time, parents are asked to wait at the socially distanced markers along the wall at the pedestrian gate. Family groups will then be called for and will make their way to the gate. Parents **MUST** adhere to social distancing while waiting and leave quickly.

Equipment required

No school bags or any other items are to be brought to the school until further notice.

Children will be provided with individual stationary packs in school.

Only a water bottle and mid-morning snack, a packed lunch in a wipe able container and a coat.

Pupils are asked to wear clean uniform every day – this can be school uniform or PE uniform regardless of the day at the moment.

Blended Learning

We will continue to use our school website to provide remote learning for our pupils and will begin to use google classrooms if blended learning continues past Halloween.

Homework will be set via the home learning area of the website and sent in electronically as during closure.

All letters and newsletters will be uploaded to the school website and sent out via the app – no paper copies will be available.

Money in to school

Money must be sent to school in plastic – cling film or a money bag. Money will be only accepted on a Monday and must be left on the child's desk for collection. We are currently investigating cashless options and will keep you informed of these developments.

Supporting our pupils

It is difficult to know the range of experiences each pupil and family will have dealt with during this pandemic. Therefore, we will be focusing a lot of our learning in Term 1 on health, well-being and resilience.

Pupils with medical needs

Parents of pupils with ANY medical needs must contact school and speak directly with Mrs Hay before the child attends school to ensure an individual risk assessment can be drawn up and proper procedures put in place.

Our plans are dependent upon the Covid-19 situation and are therefore open to change. You will be notified as soon as possible via our website, App and Facebook page if there are any changes to this plan before September.

In these unprecedented times we have fully appreciated your understanding and support as we try to ensure the safety of our school community. As we move forward we trust we can rely on your support as we begin our journey to a 'New Normal'.

The last few months have been extremely challenging for us all and we hope and pray all our school community and wider community continues to stay safe. I would like to again thank you for your continued support and wish you a very restful and enjoyable summer. We are very excited about welcoming our pupils back to school in August.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Hay