

INFORMATION

Attached to this Parents' News is a Help Sheet for Parents and Carers re: Frequently Asked Questions. We appreciate that there is much confusion over the constant changes of this virus and the protocols school need to implement to keep our school community safe and our school functioning to the best of our ability. Please read this Help Sheet and refer to it when needed.

Starting School in September 2022

Any family who has a younger child starting with us in P1, in September 2022, should forward their name to our school office for our records.

Please remember everyone must complete an official EA Application form online also. Please go to: eani.org.uk/parents/admissions from 12 noon on 10th January to 12 noon on 28th January 2022. This is the same process as for a Nursery Application. Should you need help – please contact our School Office. We will be happy to assist you.

A FEW REMINDERS

- Start and Finish Times will remain. All pupils to be in by 8:55am please, now that our routines are in place and working. It is great to see the staggered start working well.
All parents are requested to keep to our one-way system, and to maintain distancing and face coverings. This keeps everyone safe.
- All Free School Meals will be provided as usual.
- Absences from school should be reported to the school office where attendance figures are recorded. Thank you for letting teachers know on Seesaw as well, if time permits. Thank you for keeping children at home for 48 hours following a vomiting bug or when fully dosed with a regular cold. Staff will provide work for catch up after Day 2 of an illness absence via Seesaw, at parent request. Should a class or children be off due to COVID19, work will be forwarded also by Seesaw or Work Folder (class absence). See attached Help Sheet for further information.
- All lunches/coats etc should arrive to school on entry. Remember, gates are closed during the day and items forgotten will have to wait until home time.
- No mobile phones should come into school, unless absolutely necessary. Thank you for doing this already in our upper primary classes.

THIS TERM

We hope to continue with our Rise and Shine Club, Swimming, Music, Afterschool Activity Days in Year Groups as long as EA/DE permits this.

Information concerning classes and days for these activities will be forwarded to you.

Watch out for information about our school on LOVE BALLYCLARE/Social Media in the coming weeks. Please share this with other parents you know making choices for their children going to P1 for the first time this year. We rely on parent recommendation to actively maintain our enrolment.

Thank you!

PARENTS

Please continue to social distance after school in our playground area and outside the school grounds. We do advise this and the wearing of face coverings, if you are chatting with others.

Adults pass on this variant to each other easily and then children/school are affected.

I know many feel this is never going to end but it will. *Try to keep positive.*

SEEKING AFTER-SCHOOL RELIEF CLEANING STAFF



The Education Authority (EA) Cleaning Service wish to create a pool of temporary cover for short-term staff shortages of after-school relief cleaning staff.

As these roles are for urgent cover, you may be asked to work with little notice given; this could be a few days or even a few hours' notice.

If you are available to work afternoons, Monday to Friday, we can offer you:

A competitive pay rate of £9.69 per hour

An opportunity to work for EA, across a variety of areas. On the job training.

To register your interest visit:

www.eani.org.uk/reliefcleaning-staff-register-interest

Please note, an EA member of staff will contact those who have registered their interest for a short telephone interview when there is a position available.

If you have any queries, please email:

cleaning@eani.org.uk

Ballyclare Primary School
HELP SHEET FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



Everyone has a role to play in keeping our school safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Don't send your child to school if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

You should COVID-19 Lateral Flow test if your child has:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back. (You do not need to measure their temperature - if you do, a normal temperature is 36.4° → 37.5°C) **or**
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual) **or**
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste – this means the child has noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste differently to normal

*If your child does **not** have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms such as a runny nose or sore throat, please Lateral Flow test as this Omicron variant appears like a cold.*

WHAT DO I DO IF	ACTION REQUIRED	RETURN TO SCHOOL WHEN
MY CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS	<p><u>YOUR CHILD MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do a COVID-19 Lateral Flow test. A PCR test is no longer needed. * If your child has had COVID 19 within the last 3 months – please contact Mrs Mulligan. 	<p>Your child can return to school if the test is negative, they haven't had a temperature in the last 48 hrs and they haven't been advised to self-isolate. You must inform the school of a positive result.</p>
MY CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 ON A LATERAL FLOW TEST	<p><u>YOUR CHILD MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform school immediately about test result. • Self-isolate for period of up to 10 days. <p>Although there is Public Health guidance re: coming out of isolation after two negative tests results on days 6 & 7, we advise caution with this. The guidance also advises against meeting in large groups on days 8-10. We therefore request parents to keep children off school up to Day 10, at this stage of the pandemic, to reduce the risk for other pupils, families and staff. Please contact the school office should you need to check/discuss this information further.</p> <p>When children are COVID-19 positive – school will forward work tasks from Day 3 of this illness at parent request. There is <u>no</u> expectation that pupils complete school work when ill. Catch up can be made on return to school when pupils are fully fit.</p>	<p>Your child can return to school after the isolation period as directed, even if they still have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.</p> <p>Please note that 2 clear negative Lateral Flow test results must be in place before any child or adult can come out of isolation, with caution.</p>
SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS	<p><u>YOUR CHILD MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform school immediately about household illness. • Household member should take a COVID-19 Lateral Flow test. • If your child is in school – remove them, and any siblings, immediately if the result is positive as they are unvaccinated close contacts. 	<p>You must inform school of results of the test before any return to school.</p> <p>Your child can return to school if the household member's test is negative and if they haven't had to self-isolate.</p>

WHAT DO I DO IF	ACTION REQUIRED	RETURN TO SCHOOL WHEN
SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19	<p><u>YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform school immediately about test result • Your child should remain at home regardless of their own negative test result. They should Lateral Flow test for 10 days. <p>Contact school if your child can be removed from contact with the positive case to another household.</p> <p>Any child isolating due to being a close contact of a positive case in their household, will receive their work tasks home to complete from day 2 of their absence. If possible, parents are requested to support this learning at home. Catch-up and check-ins will be provided by school.</p>	<p>Your child can return to school when they have completed up to 10 days of isolation without any symptoms/negative Lateral Flow test results. Inform school prior to your child's return.</p> <p>Please contact Mrs Mulligan if your child has a day 8 negative Lateral Flow test result.</p>
MY CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD OR BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE FROM OUTSIDE NORTHERN IRELAND.	<p><u>YOUR CHILD MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact school for advice and to discuss your individual situation. 	
WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD'S TEACHER IS ABSENT AND CANNOT BE TEMPORARILY REPLACED.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will be requested to remain at home for supervised learning. Work Folders will be provided/can be collected from school for parents as staff will be unwell and unable to provide Digital Learning and feedback. 	<p>Pupils will return to school on return of the teacher or following a suitable temporary replacement being available. School will advise.</p>

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION		
REPORTING ABSENCE – COVID RELATED OR OTHERWISE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should be done via the school office in the normal way. We will record these dates. 	<p>School Office: 02893322389</p>
CHECKING RETURN TO SCHOOL DATE AFTER A COVID RELATED ABSENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Mrs Mulligan or Mr McAuley (VP). <p>If your child is remaining off the 10 days of isolation, then you do <u>not</u> need to do this.</p>	<p>School Office: 02893322389</p> <p>kmulligan818@c2kni.net</p>
REQUESTING WORK IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT WITH ILLNESS OR ISOLATING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact your child's class teacher. Should the class be home Remote Learning due to teacher illness, contact the Head of Year or Mrs McCollum (SENCO) for advice, if needed. <p><u>Heads of Year:</u></p> <p>P1 Mrs Hyde</p> <p>P2 Mrs Kennedy</p> <p>P3 Mr Heyburn</p> <p>P4 Mrs Barrow</p> <p>P5 Mrs K. Robinson</p> <p>P6 Mrs Watson</p> <p>P7 Mrs Brown</p>	<p>School Office: 02893322389</p>