

MAGHERA PRIMARY SCHOOL

**15 Station Road, Maghera, Co Londonderry, BT46 5BS**

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18th August 2020

Dear Parent

I hope that you are well and looking forward to your child’s return to school.

We will certainly be very glad to see the children return to school after being away for so long. I’m sure you will appreciate that the Covid-19 situation remains a fluid and rapidly changing one. We acknowledge that many of you will be eager to make childcare arrangements and so we have decided to issue our plans for September now.

Primary 7 children will return to school on Monday 24th August and with a change to the original plan, **they will remain in school until 3 pm**. Note there will be no school meals that week and they will require a packed lunch.

As was the original plan all pupils in all classes will be returning to school on a full time basis from Tuesday 1st September.

While the threat from the virus remains real we will continue to implement the plan agreed by the Board of Governors at the end of June. We will continue to adhere to social distancing to alleviate any Health and Safety concerns for both staff and pupils.

* There will be no Breakfast club or PAL club to begin with to ensure all guidelines are followed and to keep children in their class bubbles
* All pupils will be seated 1 metre apart and 2 metres from staff members
* We will use all available space in classrooms to place desks 1 metre apart and facing forwards
* The hall has been utilised to enable this provision to occur
* The children in each class group or “bubble” will stay with each other and interactions with other groups will be kept to the minimum
* There will be staggered arrival and pick up times keeping families together. Family groups will be assigned times before school restart
* Children will be required to wash their hands before entering their classrooms and before break and dinnertime. Sanitising stations will be available at the entrance to each classroom
* The children will have lunch in their classrooms. This includes school cooked meals. These will be available from Tuesday 1st September
* There will be no canteen facilities for break and children will need to bring a break and a drink in a throw away bag
* The school front and back playgrounds will be used as zones and staggered breaks and dinners will enable more “protective bubbles”

To ensure the guidelines will be followed it has been necessary to split classes. We will put these safeguards in place for at least 1 month to concentrate on catching up on work and settling the children back into a routine.

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| Primary 1 / 2 | P 1/2 classroom | Mrs L Mawhinney |
| Primary 3 | Mobile classroom | Mrs L Mc Mullan |
| Primary 4 | P 3/ 4 classroom | Mrs J Jameson |
| Primary 5 | P5/6 classroom | Miss J Johnston |
| Primary 6 | Hall | Miss K Fry |
| Primary 7 | P6 / 7 classroom | Mrs L Brown |

I appreciate that there is a great deal of information contained in this letter. Should you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school email address.

Kind Regards,

L Mawhinney

Principal