

## **Birches Primary School**



## **Arrangements for 2020/2021 School Year**

Dear Parents,

The Board of Governors and myself have discussed our restart to school for the 2020/2021 school year using the DE Guidance 'New School Day'.

As you know the current situation is changing on a daily basis and depending on the Covid-19 infection rate, government guidance may change before school resumes, consequently our guidance may change.

The plan we have proposed takes into account the current guidance.

Guidance recommends that:

'Primary school children return to full time education with social distancing, where practical, while implementing a 'protective bubble' strategy.'

We aim to phase the children back to school during the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> August. The children will be in 'protective bubbles' and will only interact with children and staff within this bubble. They will have a staggered start and end to the day.

In order to accommodate the social distancing recommendations, some classes will be set up using other areas within school.

P1 - Classroom P2 - Classroom P3 - Classroom

P4 - Will use both of the upstairs classrooms

P5 - Dining hall

P6 - P6 children will be split into two groups of 14.

They will work alternative weeks in the dining hall and in the mobile classroom (further

details will be sent to P6 parents closer to our restart)

P7 - Classroom

### Outline of arrangements for our initial restart.

We have staggered times to avoid congestion and large gatherings in the car park.

### Monday 24th August

All P7 pupils will start school and attend all week

8.30 – 8.45am to 12.45pm

- Entrance through the main doors

### All children in the same family can be dropped off at the same time as their eldest sibling.

•	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	P4 and P5		
	8.30 - 8.45am to 12.55pm	- P4 Entrance through side gate C (Robinsonston)		
	8.45 - 9.00am to 1.05pm	- P5 Entrance through the main doors		

### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August P2, P3 and P6

8.30 – 8.45am to 12.55pm	<ul> <li>P3 Entrance through side gate C (Robinsonston)</li> </ul>
8.45 – 9.00am to 1.05pm	<ul> <li>P6 Entrance through side gate B (kitchen side)</li> </ul>
9.00 – 9.15am to 1.15pm	- P2 Entrance through main door

# • Tuesday 1st September onwards

These times outlined are specific to our restart and will be reviewed as needed.

# Drop off

8.30 am	P7	Main Entrance		
	Р3	Side gate C (Robinsonstown)		
8.45am	P5	Main Entrance		
	P6	Side gate B (kitchen side)		
	P4	Side gate C (Robinsonstown)		
9.00am	P2	Main Entrance		

#### ALL CHILDREN WILL LEAVE THROUGH THE ENTRANCE THEY USED IN THE MORNING

### Pick up times

1.30pm	P2	
1.45pm	Р3	Everyday for the first term (this will be under review)
2.20pm	P4 – P7	For parents collecting 1 child only
2.35pm	P4 – P7	For parents collecting more than 1 child.

Information regarding drop off and pick-up of P1 children will be given to parents as part of their induction and staggered start.

### **Restart Information**

- All children will start full-time on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- 1 metre social distancing will be observed, where practically possible, between children.
- Each class will be in their own 'bubble'.
- Pupils are not to bring in any items from home, except for a coat. Further information regarding lunch boxes will follow.

### PE

All PE lessons will be outdoors. On PE days, children can come to school wearing their PE kit.

PE kit: Outdoor trainers, black tracksuit/ leggings, white polo top, school sweatshirt.

Teachers will inform you which day your child has PE in the new term.

#### Stationery

We would ask each family to make a voluntary contribution of £10.00 towards a stationery pack for your child. If you have two children at school, it is £15.00 and for three children at school £20.00. The pack provided by school will contain all necessary equipment for your child in school.

I will contact all parents again in August to update you on any further information.

Government guidance has stated that parents should not enter the school building unless required. Children can be dropped off at their designated entrance to the school building where they will be met by a member of staff.

I fully understand parental concerns about returning to school next term. In particular, if your child has medical needs or someone in the family home has a medical condition. Specific guidance regarding this is available on the Education and Health Department websites. If, for any reason, you feel your child cannot return to school once open, please contact Mrs Watson before Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June – <a href="mailto:pwatson676@c2kni.net">pwatson676@c2kni.net</a>.

This has been a difficult period for parents and we greatly appreciate all your support. I hope that things will become much clearer and easier next term.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer break and I wish our P7 class every success as they move on to their next school.

Yours sincerely

P V Watson

Principal