

19th February 2021
(VM/KL)



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Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, announced on 16 February that some pupils could return to school from 22 February. I appreciate this will generate some queries and I wish to provide you with some clarification of what this means for your child.

The Scottish Government's decision means that children in Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) and those in P1-3 can return to classes full-time from 22 February. In-school learning will continue for all vulnerable children and children of essential workers and they should continue to attend as per the arrangements already agreed.

The arrangements for pupils in school will be as follows:

- Nursery pupils who are in the green group (Miss Campbell's group) should now enter and leave nursery through the main nursery door next to the bike racks. Pupils in the other groups continue to enter and leave through the gate into the nursery outdoor area.
- Primary pupils enter the P4-7 playground in the mornings, with P1-3 pupils in the top area and P4-7 pupils in the area below the steps. As usual, with the exception of those on school transport, pupils are not supervised prior to 9am and they are the responsibility of parents. To mitigate risks parents are not permitted into the playground.
- To reduce the number of people needing to wait in the school grounds after a nursery pick-up, we will facilitate a 3.10pm pick-up for primary siblings of nursery pupils. If you would like to use this option, please contact the school office. Pupils will be brought across the P4-7 playground at 3.10pm.
- In order to mitigate risk pupils can only play within their bubble. P2 and Sky Room will use the P1-3 playground; P1, P3 and GME P1-3 will use the P4-7 playground and the P4-5 and P6-7 bubbles will use the amphitheatre. The playgrounds are already split into areas for each bubble. The nursery bubbles have access to the outside area separately.
- Schools dinners continue to get served as usual.
- Pupils are not required to wear school uniform. The classrooms continue to need ventilated with windows open all the time so please ensure your child dresses appropriately.
- Indoor PE is not currently permitted, therefore PE will take place outside. Pupils should wear suitable clothes on the days they have PE and have a change of clothes in school in case they require to get changed afterwards, e.g. if their clothes are wet.
- Out of school childcare is not re-opening. Breakfast clubs are only open for children who may be considered vulnerable and for the children of key workers, therefore they are not open as normal for all primary pupils in school.



school buses. Primary pupils are required to sit 2 metres from secondary pupils. All pupils continue to need to wear face coverings on school transport unless they are exempt.

- Unless exempt, parents/carers are required to wear face coverings while dropping off and picking up pupils. Adults and secondary pupils should also physically distance. In order to make this easier, please do not stay in the school grounds any longer than necessary.
- The requirement for sanitising and washing hands has not reduced, therefore pupils and staff will be sanitising/washing their hands at key points throughout the day.
- As before pupils should not bring anything non-essential into school and we will continue to keep items going home to the absolute minimum. As pupils have been sharing work with teachers throughout the term we do not require any work to be brought in. Jotters should be kept at home so they can be used should pupils need to self-isolate or learn remotely in future.
- In keeping with national guidance, anyone displaying Covid symptoms should not come into school and is required to have a negative test result or self-isolate for 10 days before coming back into school. If one person in the household has symptoms, everyone else in the house needs to self-isolate until the person has a negative result/10 days from the start of symptoms. If symptoms develop during the school day your child will be isolated until he/she can be picked up.

I would stress the importance of following all measures we have in place within the school to ensure the safety of pupils, staff and the wider community. I would appreciate your assistance in re-enforcing the importance of this with your child.

I wish to reassure you we continue to support pupils who are not, as yet, required to return to school full-time through our remote learning programme. Our staff remain committed to ensuring we provide the best possible education to all of our pupils.

The First Minister has advised there will be a further announcement on the phased return to schools on 2 March 2021 and we will update you further once the outcome of this is known.

Perth and Kinross Council updates information for parents/carers on its website www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/schools and also on its Facebook and Twitter sites.

The following link is a letter written by Professor Jason Leitch explaining the reason for younger children being able to return to school [DG Health and Social Care \(Acting\).dot \(careinspectorate.com\)](mailto:DG Health and Social Care (Acting).dot (careinspectorate.com))

I understand that this is a time of great uncertainty and anxiety. Please be assured that for those coming into school, our priority is to settle them back in and support pupils to feel safe and happy. Given the big change some pupils are facing there will be no homework issued currently. Regardless of whether pupils are in school or learning remotely they are able to share any concerns with their teacher or myself. If you require any further information or support, including for yourself, please contact me via the school office.

Thank you for your continued assistance and working with us to support your child during this time.

Yours sincerely

V.L. Marshall

Vicky Marshall
Primary DHT