



26th October 2021
(VM/DS)

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Dear Parent/Carer

Return of Pupils from Monday 25 October 2021

I hope you and your family have enjoyed the October break. We are looking forward to the Term ahead and as we welcome back pupils, I would like to update you on some important information.

As you will be aware, the First Minister recently indicated that the restrictions in schools would be reviewed for the new Term.

We have been advised by the Scottish Government that following engagement with Local Authorities, members of the Advisory Subgroup and the Chief Medical Officer there will be **no immediate increase or decrease in restrictions in schools** at this time. This situation will remain under close review.

The measures advised in my letter dated 12 August 2021, will therefore continue in school until further notice. These include:

- Physical distancing of at least one metre between all staff, and between staff and pupils.
- Face coverings to be worn by all staff in school.
- Face coverings to be worn by those **aged 12 and over** on school transport.
- Enhanced cleaning, ventilation and hygiene measures.
- Arrangements for self-isolation and contact tracing (as below).
- Hand hygiene.

Self-isolation, contact tracing and testing

- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, or if they display symptoms, then they should isolate as previously advised.
- If your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive, you should arrange a COVID-19 test for them as soon as possible and not wait for any symptoms.
- Self-isolation requirements (including contact tracing and testing) are being updated in line with the changes to self-isolation for the wider community. This will mean that if your child is aged 5 or over, and is identified as a close contact, then while they will initially be asked to self-isolate, they can return to school if they subsequently receive a negative PCR test result and remain symptom free.



- If your child is under 5 years of age, then they do not need to isolate as long as they remain symptom free.
- The revised approach to contact tracing means that groupings of pupils (or 'bubbles') are no longer required and will be removed as soon as possible.

Continuing to Manage and Minimise Risk

I would stress the importance of following all measures we have in place within the school to ensure the safety of pupils and school staff. I would appreciate your assistance in reinforcing the importance of this message with your child.

We will continue to monitor any further announcements by the First Minister and will keep you updated if there are any further changes affecting your child's education.

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

I understand that you or your child may have ongoing concerns about attending school during these challenging times, but I would wish to reassure you that as well as their education, the health and wellbeing of pupils is very important to our staff, and we will continue to support all pupils to attend school safely.

I would like to thank you for continuing to support the school and your child's education during these times. If you require any further information please contact Breadalbane@pkc.gov.uk.

I look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher