

27th August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful holiday and your children are now getting excited to return to Kilmorie; we are raring to go with all the great learning we have lined up for them.

I am delighted and honoured to be beginning my journey as the new Headteacher for Kilmorie School and I'm very keen to get to know parents, as well as pupils and staff.

From my experience of being a headteacher for close to 8 years, I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together. Parents make an important contribution to children's achievements at school, and I want to further develop the strong relationship between the school and parents for everyone's benefit.

Further to the 19th July's Government's Step 4 of the roadmap and recent government guidance, I wanted to write to let you know about how the new school year will commence.

We are looking forward to welcoming back all Year 1 – 6 children from Friday 3rd September. Nursery and Reception children will be welcomed back from 9th September (Nursery) and 13<sup>th</sup> September (Reception) following home visits.

### **Start and end of day**

We will no longer be using staggered starts and ends to the day as we were before the holiday, but we will be introducing a slightly staggered soft start. This means that there will be a window in which children will come in to school (please aim for the earlier part of the window). They will then be asked to go straight to their classrooms where teachers will be waiting for them with early work to complete. Please see the timetable below for timings. The exception to this is Year 1 children, who will still be collected from the playground. The reason for the change is to continue to reduce the amount of people on site at any one time.

The end of the day will also be slightly staggered also to avoid too many people on site at one time.

Year group	Soft start timings	End of day/pick up	Entrance
4	8:40 – 8:50	15:25	Main
5	8:40 – 8:50	15:25	Fire gate
6	8:40 – 8:50	15:25	Main
2	8:45 – 8:55	15:30	Fire Gate
3	8:45 – 8:55	15:30	Main
1	Bell will go at 8:55	15:30	Main
Reception	Lions: 8.50 Tigers: 8.55 Bears: 9.00	Lions: 3.20 Tigers: 3.25 Bears: 3.30	Nursery Gate
Nursery	8.45	3.20- 3.30	Nursery Gate

In the mornings, we are asking that parents continue to not come on site (again with the exception of Nursery, Reception and Year 1 parents, where **1 parent only** is able to come in to the playground and settle their child/ren). Parents are able to come on site at the end of the day to pick up their child/ren, please keep this to **1 parent per family**.

All these arrangements will be reviewed at half term.

### **Health and safety**

- Regular hand sanitising and cleaning of pinch points will continue throughout the day
- Year groups will continue to have specific areas to access the building e.g. Year 4, 5 and 6 will continue to use their staircases
- Windows will remain open for improved ventilation (please continue to send your child in with suitable clothing/layers)

### **Symptoms and positive cases**

Please continue to keep your child at home if they are displaying any of the main symptoms of Coronavirus

- *a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)*
- *a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)*
- *a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal*

You may be aware that schools no longer have the responsibility of contacting families when positive cases arise. As a result, NHS Test and Trace will now deal with any positive cases within the school; the guidance is that we are no longer expected to tell families. Children under 18 will not need to isolate if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive, neither will those people over 18 who have been double vaccinated. Close contacts will be advised to take a PCR test.

We have written an FAQ, that hopefully answers any further questions you may have. Do please have a look [here](#) .

Very best wishes for the remainder of the holiday and we look forward to welcoming you and your children back on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Kind regards



Julie Loffstadt  
Headteacher



Kate Glasheen  
Interim Headteacher