



Email from Matthew Bartlett, Head Master

Thursday 25th June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Junior School: Logistical changes for the start of term in August 2020

The summer is likely to be a time of many announcements from the Scottish Government not least with respect to education and how we will return in August. The College is already starting to spring back into life with buildings being recommissioned, rooms being made ready and from next week, our cleaners and janitorial staff are moving furniture and deep cleaning our facilities. The Junior School has a large number of new pupils joining us and many year groups are completely full.

The Junior School is reopening fully to all pupils and therefore the DFM's comments on Tuesday 23rd were welcome but do not directly impact on us. We continue to refine our plans in order to minimise social contact on a day-to-day basis at school. We recognise that keeping all our community safe is our first priority and there should be no compromise here.

This means that there must be logistical changes at lunchtimes, break times, lesson transitions and during daily collection and pickup. In addition to this we will continue to implement our enhanced cleaning regimes and ongoing hygiene control.

Therefore, I thought it was important to share with you our plans at this stage. Please be aware that these are subject to change and further improvement and we are aiming to have a final version with you not later than Friday 7th August. This is entirely dependent on Government advice and updates.

This is a lengthy document and a different version will be sent to Senior School parents. If you have children in both schools, please read both letters.

We will be keeping young people safe by working/playing in 'bubbles' which means your child will spend time with their year group but will as far as possible not have contact with other year groups. Specialist staff will go to the classroom to avoid lots of movement around site and the numbers using toilet facilities at any one time will be monitored.

The process for drop off and pick up is unlikely to change in August from that outlined below and is shared now to assist with your planning

Drop off

No children should be on site before 8.30am unless registered for our Breakfast Club. Junior School access is for children only and through the rear door from the lane. Drop off should be as swift as possible and there will be no parking or access to the playground areas with the exception of kindergarten parents who may use the top car park.

The following will apply:

- All children arriving between 8.30-9am.
- All children to be met in lane by JSLT and CA's
- All children to make way directly to class following the one way system.
- Staff positioned at bottom of stairs and at 1st floor at assist pupils



- 1 teacher per stage on duty between 8.30-9am each morning to supervise.
- Kindergarten only in top car park.
- Kindergarten only to use Mercy Passage.
- Social distancing markers at entrance to Kindergarten.
- Parents and children admitted to Kindergarten one family at a time. Can we request only one parent please dropping off.
- P7 to be dropped at Sports Building and wait in green tarmac outside area with staff member.

Pick up

This poses the biggest risk of transmitting infection for primary schools and it is crucial that we can get this right and keep everyone safe.

The car park area will open at 2.30pm prompt and gates will then be closed at 2.45pm

There will be staggered pick up times and pupils will be dismissed from different doors

Class	Dismissed from	Time
P.7	Sports building	3.30pm
P.6	ICT	3.15pm
P.5	Back door	3.15pm
P.4	ICT	3pm
P.3	Back door	3pm
P.2	ICT	2.45pm
P.1	Back door	2.45pm
Kindergarten	Mercy passage	From 3pm – 4. 30pm Social distance markers used. Staff to regulate number of parents in building.

- Lane marked with hearts at to enable 2m distancing.
- 2 lines for each dismissal point.
- Class collection zone marked off at exit to allow teacher space to match children to adults safely.
- All children must remain with adults once collected.
- If waiting for older siblings must wait in car or beside adults and hold hand.
- Playgrounds not to be accessed by children after dismissal.



The key change is that it will not be possible for parents to wait in a group at the back of the Junior School as currently. Please try to limit the number of adults and children as much as possible, if possible one adult only. Please return directly to your car once your child has been dismissed to you.

Lunches

These are different from currently and you may want to share with your child just before they return to school. All children should bring a packed lunch and their own water bottle. Both should be clearly marked with the child's name

Class	Area for lunch	Time
P.7	In class	12.10 – 1pm
P.6	In class	12.10 – 1pm
P.5	In class	12.10 – 1pm
P.4	In class	12.10 – 1pm
P.3	Art room Science	11.40-12.10pm (Wed 12.20-12.50pm due to PE)
P.2	Atrium	12.15-12.45pm
P.1	Atrium	11.40-12.10pm
Kindergarten	Upper floor in Kindergarten Children in groups in rotation	11.45-12.05pm 12.10-12.30pm 12.35-12.55pm 12.55-1.15pm

Breaks will also be different and again young people will be kept in their year group bubbles

Breakfast Club

This will run in the Refectory as usual, but there will be social distancing in place and parents will drop their child off at the refectory door. We are not able to provide the usual breakfast service but children will be provided with a cereal bar and a fresh fruit juice.

After School

The only co-curricular club (for P4-P7) which we will run in the first instance will be Homework Club. This will run **3.30-4.30pm** Monday through Friday from Monday 17th August. Children will remain with their year group 'bubble' and staff from that year group will supervise, helped by specialist staff. KG-P3 will also remain in their bubbles for after school club.



After Care

In line with government guidance, After Care Provision will be offered in the Atrium only for the children of category one key workers in the first instance from 4.30pm-6.00pm

Specialist classes

Specialist subjects will continue with staff going to classes apart from KG where Care Inspectorate guidelines do not permit this. KG Classes will be delivered where possible online in the kindergarten or by other means.

Homework

We intend to use Schoology for Homework initially to avoid sending work home for hygiene reasons.

Welcome Sessions

Meetings with new class teachers and introduction to the new year's work will take place by zoom. They will follow exactly the same format as previously with a presentation, a chance to meet the teacher and a sessions

PE and Games

This will all happen on campus and P1-3 has a designated PE slot timetabled. P4-7 have a longer slot that encompasses PE and Games.

Saturday Sport

We are looking to provide sporting provision for Junior School on alternate Saturdays. We await guidance from the government and from sporting bodies as to what this can look like. We expect guidance sometime in July.

Events and Visitors

To reduce the risk of infection, the school is not open for visitors. Please note that this also includes parents at the current time. Please use phone or email and all enquiries will be dealt with timeously.

We have not cancelled events, but will respond to the latest safety guidelines as to what events can take place at any given time. Miss Hegarty will be in touch about the postponed First Holy Communions. We have a tentative date of Sunday 4th October in St Aloysius' Church at 2pm. Please do not make any formal arrangements in respect of this until we can confirm the date.

Uniform

Louise McElroy has emailed out details of uniform and changes which are permissible in the current situation.

Kindergarten Welcome: Thursday 13th August

There will be a staggered start for our new pupils joining the kindergarten and details of this will be sent out before the start of term.



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Schola, Music Lessons and School Transport

We are still awaiting guidance on these areas and anticipate being able to communicate with you by the end of July as to how we are allowed to proceed

I realise that this is a long letter and indeed that despite its length there are still areas that are not fully answered. This is simply the consequence of constant change and updating. I will of course write further if any updates are received and will ensure that any last minute updates are provided through a fully updated version of this letter not later than 7th August. All updates can be found in the Covid19 section of our website under 'Returning to School' which is regularly updated.

I do hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well

Matthew Bartlett

Head Master



**ST ALOYSIUS'
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GREAT THINGS HAPPEN IN THE GREEN BLAZER