



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 26

FRIDAY 19TH MARCH 2021

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

Article 20 (children unable to live with their family)

"If a child cannot be looked after by their immediate family, the Government must give them special protection and assistance. This includes making sure the child has alternative care that is continuous."

In school we have a very clear Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy. We actively promote safeguarding messages throughout the school in a language which child can understand. Safeguarding our pupils is of paramount concern to us in school.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL P4-7!

I'm sure you are delighted with the announcement that P4-7 pupils will resume face-to-face learning from **Monday 22nd March**. It has been such a long time since our senior pupils have been in the school building, but this return to a semblance of normality is very welcome.

With all pupils now back to school, we will revert to our established staggered arrival and departure times from next week... you will receive a reminder email/text about your allocated times. I thank you all for your patience with these arrangements, but they are in place to help keep our school open.

In the initial period up to Easter, it is important we take the time for our pupils to feel welcomed and safe once again in school. Time will be spent re-establishing routines, friendships and expectations. We are so excited to have everyone back again! ☺

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together



STAGGERED ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES

As per the Restart letter emailed to all parents on Wednesday of this week, we will resume our established staggered arrival and departure times from school on Monday 22nd March. Please check your email for a reminder of your allocated times.

For obvious reasons it is important we all play our part in keeping to our allocated times – unfortunately these can not be changed. I thank you in advance for your help and support with this.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Local primary schools have reported confirmed cases of Coronavirus in their schools just this week.

Once you have left your child to school or collected them at the end of the school day we respectfully ask you leave the school grounds promptly. It is tempting to chat especially if the weather is pleasant, however one of the greatest risks with COVID in school grounds is the congregation of adults from multiple households. As a school staff we do our utmost to be careful to keep our school open – we can only do this with your support and everyone playing their part.

I have also been concerned this week with some P1-3 children climbing railings etc when handed over to parents at the end of the day – this is not appropriate. Once children are handed over to parents/carers they are under your supervision and care.

EASTER HOLIDAY 2021

Our Holiday list for the 2020-2021 academic year is available to download on our website. As a reminder, **school will close for Easter at 12.00pm on Wednesday 31st March** (no lunches will be served). The Summer Term will commence on **Wednesday 14th April**.

There will be staggered home times for all pupils on Wednesday 31st March to help with the safe collection of pupils – more details on these arrangements will be emailed home next week.

POST PRIMARY APPLICATIONS

The closing date for Post Primary applications was Tuesday 16th March. If you have not made your application via the online portal you must now make a paper form application which will be processed as a late application.

If you need help with this application, please contact EA Admissions Helpdesk on 028 95985595 or email postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk

MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL...

We discourage children bringing mobile phones to school. If you need to contact your child during the school day this should be done via the Office. If they must bring a mobile phone to school these must stay **SWITCHED OFF** during school (including break and lunchtimes). Children using mobile phones during school time will have them removed.



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.

VISIT [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) TO BOOK A TEST ONLINE. CALL 119 IF YOU CANNOT BOOK A TEST ONLINE.

YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at www.education-ni.gov.uk



EDUCATION RESTART



SCHOOL DINNER MENU (£2.55 PER DAY)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Monday 22nd March</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chicken Nuggets, Peas & Chips ~ Yoghurt & Watermelon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tuesday 23rd March</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chicken Curry, Rice Naan Bread & Vegetables ~ Chocolate Cookie & Apple</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wednesday 24th March</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roast Beef, cabbage, Roast Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy ~ Rice Pudding & Fruit</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday 25th March</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Salmon Cakes, Sweetcorn & Mashed Potatoes ~ Yoghurt & Oranges</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Friday 26th March</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Irish Stew & Crusty Bread ~ Apple Sponge, Custard & Fruit</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Free School Meals payment will cease as of 22.03.21. School Meals should be booked for the week ahead by Sunday 21st March.</p>

PRIMARY 7 HOODIES....

P7 Hoodies should be delivered to your home address in the coming days – thank you to Mr Morrow and Mrs McConvey for organising this. P7 pupils are welcome to wear these to school instead of their school jumper for the rest of the academic year.

SUMMER UNIFORM

When pupils return to school, they may, if they wish, wear their Summer Uniform. If pupils have had a growth spurt since Christmas this may be a more manageable option for parents. Girls may wear a green gingham dress and boys may wear black or grey school shorts. These items are available at very reasonable prices in supermarkets.

If your child has indeed had a growth spurt and you no longer need their school jumper, pinafore etc please send this in to school and we can reuse them.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD (OR MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS UNWELL)

We are all well versed in what to do if a member of your household is unwell with symptoms of covid... Please do NOT send your child to school. Book a test. The household must isolate. Inform school of the results.

We have on the homepage of our website, an online Google Form to report an Absence from school, alternatively you may email info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk.

