



Ballyvester Primary School

www.ballyvesterps.org.uk

Newsletter - August 2021

UPDATED information about the new academic year

Following the revised Department of Education Guidance for Schools and Educational Settings issued on 19th August 2021, some changes will be implemented to the school day to mitigate virus transmission.

Children will continue to be taught in 'protective class bubbles' in their classrooms (indoors) but will be permitted to mix when outdoors at break and lunch times (dependent on group numbers). They will continue to wash their hands when they enter the classroom, at break and lunch time and finally before they leave school.

Revised Whole School Plan – August/September 2021

Week beginning 23rd August	Induction week Year 1 – Year 7 pupils will start school on Wednesday 25 th August 2021 from 9am-12noon each day (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday) Pupils should bring a healthy break and water each day in their lunchbox. No lunch required. * See staggered start and finish times below
Week beginning 30th August	Bank Holiday Monday– School closed Tuesday 31st August: Year 1-7 will attend 9.00am – 12noon (Healthy break and water only) Wednesday 1st September: Year 1 will attend 9.00am – 12noon (Break & water needed) Year 2-3 will attend 9.00am – 2.00pm* (Break, lunch & water needed) Year 4-7 will attend 9.00am – 3.00pm* (Break, lunch & water needed) School meals will be available from today. *See staggered start and finish times below

Staggered start and finish

In order to keep congestion at the school gate to a minimum, drop off and pick up times will continue to be staggered and arranged in family groups. **Please ensure that you keep to your allotted times and do not congregate in groups. Parents should continue to acknowledge social distancing of 2m. Face coverings are encouraged.**

Wednesday 25th - Tuesday 31st August (12 noon finish)

8.45am drop off and 11.55am pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

8.55am drop off and 12.05pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

11.45am - Year 1 pick-up

Year 1 will continue to attend school 9.00 – 12noon each day until Friday 1st October 2021.

Wednesday 1st September – 2pm finish (Y2 & Y3)

8.45am drop off and 2.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

8.55am drop off and 2.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

12.00noon – Year 1 pick-up

Wednesday 1st September – 3pm finish (Y4-7)

8.45am drop off and 2.50pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

8.55am drop off and 3.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Friday – Early closure for all pupils at 2.00pm

As pupils start school earlier due to staggered drop off times, teacher’s directed planning time will take place between 2.00 and 3.00pm every Friday. Please see pick up times below starting on Friday 3rd September 2021:

1.50pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

2.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Staffing

Y1/2: Mrs Hunter (Mon & Tues) and Mrs Arnold (Wed – Fri)

Y2/3: Mrs Burgess (Mon – Thu) and Mrs Hunter (Fri)

Y4&5: Miss Uprichard

Y6: Mrs Greenald

Y7: Mrs Beatty

Uniform

School uniform should be worn each day. Year 4-7 pupils should wear their PE kit to school on PE days.

Classrooms will be cleaned throughout the day to help eliminate any viruses or bacteria. Hand sanitising stations and surface cleaner will be in each classroom and placed in various locations throughout the school.

If your child is experiencing any sign of sickness, high temperature or coughing, they should not attend school. You will appreciate that this is in order to keep our whole school community healthy and safe.

Please remember to share these arrangements with any family members or childminders who will be assisting with the drop off and collection of your children. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions about these plans via the main school email address

info@ballyvesterps.donaghadee.ni.sch.uk

K. Hunter

23rd August 2021