

Ballydown Primary School & Nursery Unit

64 Lisnaree Road

Banbridge

Co Down

BT32 4JS

Tel:- 028 40662738

Principal: Mr B Murphy M.Ed. B.Ed. PQH(NI)

**18th March 2021**

**Return to School**

Dear Parent

We are delighted to be finally able to welcome all children back to school from Monday 22nd March. It will be lovely to see you all and give everyone a chance to settle back into school routines before the Easter break. The school building is looking fantastic, as our building and re-rendering work is almost complete. It is looking like a new building, ready to welcome the children back.

At the moment guidance still asks us to limit social contact and to minimise mixing of children and adults within the school grounds. Therefore, we will continue to operate within class bubbles and continue with the staggered a start and finish to the school day for next week, until we receive further guidance.

**Start and finish**

School doors will be open from 8:45-9:15am to allow for a more staggered arrival at school.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Enter and exit** |
| **Red Area (P1R, P1W, P2W)** | P1/2 area steps |
| **Blue Area (P2/3, P3, P4, P4/5)** | Main front door |
| **Green Area P5, P6, P6/7, P7** | Assembly hall door |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Finish time** |
| Nursery | 1:30pm |
| P1 | 1:45pm |
| P2 | 1:55pm |
| P2/3 | 2:00pm |
| P3 | 2:05pm |
| P4-P5 | 2:15pm |
| P6-P7 | 2:25pm |
| \*Older siblings may leave with younger siblings P1-P7 | |

**Buses**

EA buses will leave at 1:45pm approx.

Ulsterbus leaving at 2pm approx.

**Hygiene**

Children will wash hands on arrival to classrooms. Hands will be cleansed before eating, after play times and before going home.

Classroom tables will be cleaned before eating times and handles/touch points will be cleaned regularly throughout the day by classroom staff.

Children are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser to be used during the day.

Please **DO NOT** send your child if they are displaying any Covid-19 symptoms. Temperature checks at home are strongly advised. Any child displaying symptoms in school will be isolated and appropriately supervised, before being sent home.

**School Dinners**

Dinners will be available to all pupils. Please book dinners through the **Ezpayment App** at the beginning of each week. Please check your account is **cleared** before starting back. If you are having any issues using the app, please contact us or call into the office. All balances should be **cleared by Friday** of each week, please.

We understand that some peoples’ circumstances may have changed due to Covid. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the office for advice.

**Easter Holidays**

School will finish on Friday 26th March at the above finishing times. We will reopen for term 3 on Monday 12th April 2021. School dinners will be available on Friday. This will be a **non-uniform day** and teachers have planned a few Easter treats for snack time.

Thank you all so much for your continued support throughout these unprecedented times. At last we see an end to home-schooling! Thank you and well done on getting through it! Let’s hope that we can have an uninterrupted term 3 back in school.

Take care and I really look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

B. Murphy

Principal

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