

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a lovely summer and this letter finds you all well.

As it is nearly time for pupils to return and I am writing to share some key information. The most recent government update to Coronavirus guidance takes effect from 9 August. It sets out that local authorities and schools should continue to apply the mitigations that were in place at the end of last term, with the exception of some modifications. This approach to retaining mitigations is expected to remain in place for a period of up to 6 weeks. The updated guidance can be found here;

**<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reducing-the-risks-in-schools/pages/overview/>**

However, the most significant modification that will impact our pupils is the removal of bubbles/groupings. This welcome change will allow children to mix freely with pupils across their year group at breaks and lunches. We will continue to 'zone' our playground but now in year groups instead of classes. This will ensure all pupils have fair timetabled access to all of our play equipment and zones. (If you would like to discuss any concerns regarding playground socialising, please get in touch).

Pupils will return to school on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. We will continue to have a staff presence at the gates and in the grounds from 8.45am to welcome our young people into the school grounds and ensure their safety and supervision. We will continue to ask all adults in the school grounds at drop off or pick up to wear a mask and socially distance until we receive further updates to guidance. We thank you for your continued cooperation with this. Parents of P1-3 pupils can enter the school grounds for drop off and pick up and we ask P4-7 parents to remain outside the school gates at these times. School day times will continue to be staggered for now and will be as follows:

**P1-P3: 8.50am – 2.50pm**

**P4-P7: 9am – 3pm**

**\*\*P1 pupils will attend 9.30am -2.30pm on the first two days of term only (12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August)\*\***

School staff return to work on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August, if there is anything you would like to discuss before the pupils return on Thursday, please get in touch.

We look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back and getting to know our new Primary 1's. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Kind regards

Fiona Donaghey

Head Teacher

#TeamLairdsland – working together to grow our school.