

LAIRDSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

August 2021

Welcome Back!



Dear Parent and Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely summer and look forward to welcoming all of our children back tomorrow morning. I am writing to share some key information about school life and expectations.

School Uniform

We ask for continued consistent support of our school uniform policy. School uniform contributes greatly to pupils sense of belonging and the overall school ethos.

Uniform: Sky Blue Blouse, Polo shirt or Shirt. Navy blue or grey smart trousers, shorts or skirt. Navy blue cardigan, sweatshirt or pullover. Dark coloured shoes/trainers.

If you think you may be eligible for a school clothing grant to help with the cost of uniform, please see the following link on EDC website.

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant>

P.E Kit

Children can continue to come to school on PE days dressed in appropriate PE clothes eg polo shirt/t-shirt, jogging bottoms/leggings/shorts and a hoodie/jumper. We kindly ask these are in school uniform colours eg blue polo shirt and dark jogging bottoms/shorts. PE may be outdoors so please dress accordingly. Please note that no football colours are allowed and non-uniform colours and branded items are discouraged. PE days will be issued to classes in the coming days.

Updated Covid 19 Procedures:

Self-isolation Policy from 9 August

People with symptoms or testing positive: Staff, children or young people who develop the symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste), or who test positive using PCR tests or Lateral Flow Test, must self-isolate immediately in line with NHS guidance.

Children and young people U18 who are close contacts:

The previous blanket requirement for close contacts to self-isolate for 10 days will be removed from 9 August.

U-18s who are identified as close contacts by Test and Protect should:

Self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test;

Continue to self-isolate while awaiting their results;

If the test is positive, continue to self-isolate in line with NHS guidance;

If the test is negative and the child or young person remains without symptoms, they may end self-isolation and resume their daily lives (including returning to school), even if they have ongoing contact with the index case;

Close contacts should remain vigilant and if symptoms develop at any time, they must follow NHS guidance, self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test; and

If an U18 close contact has had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days, they do not need to do another PCR test to be exempt from self-isolation, provided they remain asymptomatic.

Arrangements for Staggered Entry and Exit of Pupils

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. 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

Arrangements for Staggered Intervals and Lunches

Interval

P1-P3: 10.15am - 10.30am
P4-P7: 10.35am - 10.50am

Lunch

P1-P3: 11.45am - 12.30pm
P4-P7: 12.20pm - 1.05pm

School bags/Resources

Please make sure all school bags and pencil cases etc. are labelled with your child's name. Please do not send your child to school with any toys/personal belongings from home as we don't want these getting lost or broken and will be unable to replace or compensate for any items.

Data Check

You will soon receive an annual data check form, sent home in children's schoolbags. Please complete and **sign** and return to school as soon as possible. It is essential that we keep our school records up to date so that we can contact you in the case of illness or an emergency. Up to date data also ensures we can communicate all news and helpful information with you. If you believe you are not receiving school communication, please notify the school office immediately so we can double check your contact details.

Allergy Information

Due to several pupils with potentially life threatening allergies, we are strictly a **nut free school**. It is important that pupils do not bring nuts or nut products to school as a snack or in their packed lunches. This includes any products which may contain nuts such as hazelnut chocolate spread (Nutella). We encourage pupils not to share or swap snacks in case they contain any hidden traces of nuts. We very much appreciate your continued support with this matter. Could you please keep the school office up to date with any information regarding your child's allergies.



If you require any further information or if you have questions or concerns about any aspects of school life then please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will do our very best to help. I look forward to us all working as a team over the coming year to ensure our school community is thriving and our young people are happy, safe and achieving their potential.

Kind regards
Fiona Donaghey
Head Teacher
#TeamLairdsland - working together to grow our school

Further Useful Information

Parking

I respectfully request that parents only use appropriate marked bays to park regardless of the length of time parked in order to ensure the safety of all our pupils. Parking on the double yellow lines or zig zags, double parking and parking on the pavement is **unsafe and endangers our children**. We encourage all pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school if possible or make use of the Sainsburys car park to 'park and stride' keeping congestion around the school to a minimum.

Attendance/Latecoming

We know that children perform better at school with their learning if they arrive regularly and on time. If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason please phone the school office **before 9.30am** to report your child's absence. You will be asked to give an indication of how long the absence may last. If we are not informed of an absence, we will contact yourself or an emergency contact number to confirm your child is at home. Please keep the school updated with any new phone numbers. We take the safety of our children very seriously.

Holiday absences are usually recorded as an unauthorised absence. If you are required to take your child out of school during term time for a holiday, please send this information to myself in writing.

If your child is leaving class during school hours for an appointment, please call the school office or send a note to the class teacher. An adult is required to collect them from the school entrance. Please advise the school if your child is expected to return that day.

Staffing August 2021

The current teaching staff for this session are as follows:		The current non-teaching staff for this session are as follows:	
Head Teacher	Mrs Donaghey	Administration Assistant	Mrs Atkinson
Depute Head Teacher (Mon-Wednesday Work Pattern) Depute Head Teacher (Mon-Friday Work Pattern)	Mrs Bradford Mrs Kerr	Clerical Assistants	Mrs Furie Mrs McGhee (Tuesday only)
Principal Teacher Acting Principal Teacher	Miss Swart/Mrs Paterson Mrs Greer	Classroom Assistants	Mrs McDonald
Primary 1a	Miss Fleming		Mrs Thomson
Primary 1b	Mrs McLoone/Mrs Martin		Mrs Taylor
Primary 2a	Miss Mardle* (Mrs Nichol Thu all day and Fri am)		Mrs Moffat
Primary 2/3	Miss Henderson		Mrs Lavery
Primary 3a	Miss De Souza	Mrs Watson	
Primary 4a	Mrs Barber/Mrs Lang	Ms Anderson	
Primary 4/5	Mrs Sewell (nee Timoney)	Ms Wylie	
Primary 5	Mrs Sewell (nee Timoney)	Kitchen Manager	Mr D Harris
Primary 6	Miss Ahmad * (Miss Hill Thu all day and Fri am)	Facilities Assistants	Mrs Sharp
Primary 6	Miss Moir		Miss Young
Primary 6	Mrs McBain		Mrs Murray
Primary 7	Mrs Gourlay		
Primary 7	Miss Fay	Family Learning Asst	Miss Quail
Other teaching staff eg RCCT cover, Support and Wellbeing	Mrs Atkinson		
Education Support Teacher	Mrs D Inglis	Janitor	Mr Armitage

*Miss Mardle and Miss Ahmad are Newly Qualified Teachers entitled to one day a week of professional development time as well as universal teacher reduced class contact time.

Dogs

E.D.C has very clear guidelines in relation to dogs on school property. The only dogs permitted to be in the school playground at any time are guide/assistance dogs. Please note any dogs (regardless of size) being carried in to the school playground are in breach of policy also and will be asked by school staff to **leave the school grounds and remain outside the gate**. We ask everyone in the school community to be aware of and respectful of any parents with assistance dogs.

Free School Meals

From the start of next term, all P1-4 pupils will be entitled to free school meals. This will be extended to all P5s from January 2022 and P6&7s from August 2022. The 2021/2022 school meal menu is now available to view on the council website, with pupils again having the option of two hot meals every day.

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/school-meals/catering-service>

Medication

If your child requires medication during school hours, please advise the school office and complete a consent form. Please check the expiration date of all medicine as it cannot be administered when out of date.



Mobile Phones

We understand that some pupils may require their mobile phones to travel to and from school. In accordance to East Dunbartonshire Council's policy mobile phones must be switched off once entering the school grounds and remain off during the school day until exiting the school grounds. Neither the school or East Dunbartonshire Council will accept liability for the loss or damage of mobile phones which are brought into school or the school grounds.

Twitter

To keep up to date on current events and aspects of school life 'follow' us on Twitter @LairdslandPS. This is a protected and locked site for parents and carers and not available to the general public. If you have requested join our account but not been accepted yet, please email the school office with your twitter handle so we can add you to our account.



Water Bottles

Pupils are encouraged to bring water bottles to have in the classroom to drink from. **Only water** can be taken into the classroom. Please ensure your child comes each day with a full bottle to minimise any need for use of the water fountain. Please put your child's name on their bottle.

Upcoming holidays

Upcoming holiday dates are:

September 2021

September weekend Friday 24 September to Monday 27 September (Inclusive)

Pupils return Tuesday 28 September

October 2021

In-service day Friday 8 October

October break Monday 11 October to Friday 15 October (Inclusive)

EDC - School holiday dates for the school year can be found here:

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/school-holidays>