



Saint Vincent de Paul Primary School
167A Ligoniel Road
BELFAST
BT14 8 DP



Planned School Restart August 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well. As promised and based on current guidance, here is a proposed plan and information on how we intend to bring our school community safely back to school. As with any plan we may get things right or we may need to "tweak" things as we work our way through. It is important to note that Covid-19 still presents a serious risk and therefore current advice from the Public Health Agency must always prevail. We appreciate your patience and support on this.

Health and Safety

To reassure you we have been working hard to ensure that our school is organised, clean and safe for both staff and pupils to return. We have put the following in place:

- ✓ **Review of policies**
- ✓ **Increased signage**
- ✓ **Playground and class Markings to encourage social distancing of 1 metre for children and 2 metres for adults**
- ✓ **Phased return of pupils to familiarise children with new routines and make the children feel at ease with their Teacher and classmates**
- ✓ **Staggered start and finish times**
- ✓ **Regular Handwashing**
- ✓ **Hand sanitising stations**
- ✓ **Class Bubbles to minimise interaction**
- ✓ **Personalised equipment**
- ✓ **Limiting visitors to the school building**

Return of pupils to school

As you are aware in our school we are very limited for space, we are currently working with the Community Centre to use their main hall, alongside the School Assembly Hall and Staffroom in order that we can get **all** our pupils back to school as soon as possible. Again, we appreciate your support on this.



Principal: Bronagh McVeigh

Tel: 02890717920 Fax: 02890710586 E-mail: bmcveigh625@c2kni.net

School Website: www.stvincentdepaulps.com

The following plan has been put in place. The children will have a phased return to school. This will provide a gentle settling in time to help the children get used to school again after such a long period of absence. In the weeks beginning Monday 24th of August and Tuesday 1st of September, the children will attend school in their alphabetical group for two days.

Group A- Children with surnames beginning with A to L e.g. John **A**lexander to Mary **L**arkin

Group B- Children with surnames M to Z e.g. Paul **M**cVeigh to Emma **Z**oom

Week One: Week beginning 24th August. PLEASE NOTE NO SCHOOL DINNERS WILL BE AVAILABLE.					
Start Time	8.45	8.45	8.45	9.00	9.00
<i>Children will be directed to Playground Markings</i>	Main Playground				
Monday 24th August	Primary 2 (A)	Primary 3 (A)	Primary 4 (A)	Primary 5 (A)	Primary 6 (A)
Tuesday 25th	Primary 2 (A)	Primary 3 (A)	Primary 4 (A)	Primary 5 (A)	Primary 6 (A)
Thursday 27th	Primary 2 (B)	Primary 3 (B)	Primary 4 (B)	Primary 5 (B)	Primary 6 (B)
Friday 28th	Primary 2 (B)	Primary 3 (B)	Primary 4 (B)	Primary 5 (B)	Primary 6 (B)
Finish Time	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40
<i>Children will be brought out to the front gate. Please be punctual!</i>					

Week Two: Beginning Tuesday 1st September. PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL DINNERS WILL BE AVAILABLE.					
Start Time	8.45	8.45	8.45	9.00	9.00
<i>Children will be directed to Playground Markings</i>	Main Playground				
Tuesday 1st September	Primary 2 (A)	Primary 3 (A)	Primary 4 (A)	Primary 5 (A)	Primary 6 (A)
Wednesday 2nd	Primary 2 (A)	Primary 3 (A)	Primary 4 (A)	Primary 5 (A)	Primary 6 (A)
Thursday 3rd	Primary 2 (B)	Primary 3 (B)	Primary 4 (B)	Primary 5 (B)	Primary 6 (B)
Friday 4th	Primary 2 (B)	Primary 3 (B)	Primary 4 (B)	Primary 5 (B)	Primary 6 (B)
Finish Time	12.30	12.45	1.00	1.15	1.30
<i>Children will be brought out to the front gate. Please be punctual!</i>					



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Week Three: Beginning Monday 7th September. PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL DINNERS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Start Time	8.45	8.45	8.45	9.00	9.00	9.00
Children will be directed to Playground Markings	Main Playground					
Children attend every day. Please note staggered finish times						
Class	Primary 2	Primary 3	Primary 4	Primary 5	Primary 6	Primary 7
Finish Time	1.30	1.45	2.00	2.15	2.30	2.45
Children will be brought out to the front gate. Please be punctual!						

Other Important Dates

Class	Start Date	School Day	Any other Information
Primary Seven Transfer Pupils ONLY	17th August	Monday- Wednesday 9-11.00	No School Dinners available
All Primary Seven pupils	24th August	Monday -Friday 8.45-12.00	No School Dinners available
All Primary Seven pupils	1st September	Tuesday -Friday 8.45-2.00	School Dinners available
Nursery Parent/ Teacher Meetings	Beginning 19th August	Start date of pupils given at the meeting	Please note it is very important that you attend
Primary One Parent/ Teacher Meetings	Beginning 25th August	Start date of pupils given at the meeting	Please note it is very important that you attend
Primary Two-Primary Six Pupils	24th August	Group A: Monday/ Tuesday Group B: Thursday/ Friday	Each child will attend two days a week No School Dinners available
Primary Two-Primary Six Pupils	Tuesday 1st September Monday 31st August is a Bank Holiday	Group A: Tues/ Wednesday Group B: Thursday/ Friday	Each child will attend two days a week School Dinners available
Primary One Staggered Intake	Week beginning Monday 7th September	9.15-12.00	School Dinners available
Primary Two-Primary Seven	Week beginning 7th September	"Normal" School day See staggered Start/ Finish times	School Dinners available



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Classroom "Bubbles"

To minimise cross infection, we have tried to keep children and staff together in the same group/ "bubble" where possible. The children will have staggered playtimes and breaks.

Lunch Arrangements

The children will eat together in their class bubble. School Dinners will be delivered to the children's classrooms. To minimise the spread of infection we ask that **NO Lunchboxes** are brought into school. Please send your child's lunch in disposable packaging.

School bags

Again, to minimise the spread of infection, the children **WILL NOT** be permitted to bring a school bag into school. Instead the children will all be provided with an individual washable folder with all the equipment they need e.g. pencil, glue, crayons etc. This will remain in school. As there has been significant additional cost in providing this we are asking parents for a contribution of £2.50 towards this.

Hand Sanitizer

We are asking parents to please provide your child with a small bottle of Hand Sanitizer, anti-bacterial wipes and packet of tissues. Please send these in a clear plastic bag marked with your child's name. These will be kept in school in the children's folders.

Homework

On restarting school children will be provided with Homework Packs. These must be kept at home. Homework will be set online through SEESAW.

Dinner Money/ Monday Money

We will continue to operate our Monday Money Scheme. To minimise the spread of infection please send ANY money in to school in a money bag, envelop or wrapped in cling film.

Clubs

Unfortunately, afterschool clubs are suspended at this time. We hope to resume Breakfast club and the Twilight Club as soon as possible. These clubs will be pre booked only. If you wish to apply for a place, please contact the school office from the 17th August to request a form.

Visitors to the School

To keep everyone safe we will be keeping all visitors to a minimum. **We respectfully ask parents also to remain at the school gates and not enter the school premises.** If you wish to speak to Mrs McVeigh or any of the staff, please contact the school in the usual ways and any concerns or queries will be addressed as soon as possible.



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Temporary change to Uniform: Please encourage your child to change when they get home from school- this will prevent the children bringing unwanted germs into your home.

Our Uniform Stockist	Tiny Togs 489 Crumlin Road Belfast BT14 7GA 028 90 391114
Nursery Uniform	As normal
P1 - P3 (Girls and boys)	School jumper, blue polo shirt, navy jogging bottoms, Black shoes with velcro fastenings.
P4 - P7 (Girls and boys)	School jumper, blue polo shirt, navy trousers or navy skirt/ Pinafore, black School shoes, navy jogging bottoms for PE days
We ask to minimise children falling and accidents, we ask that PROPER school shoes are purchased.	

Vulnerable Children/ Children with Additional needs

I appreciate that many of you are concerned about your child returning to school but particularly parents of children who require additional support. I will be in contact directly with parents of children with a statement of SENs during the week beginning 10th August to arrange an opportunity to have a chat and plan for your child's return to school. However, if any parent is concerned about their child please make contact with the school during the week beginning 17th of August.

Please note depending on the latest guidance this may all be subject to change. So please keep a look out for messages on the School Website, Facebook and Seesaw.

In the meantime, please enjoy the remainder of the Summer holidays and I look forward to supporting our pupils and parents in providing the best for our children (hopefully in more settled times!)

Yours sincerely

Bronagh McVeigh



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