



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

17 September 2021

Dear parents,

Covid procedure updates:

This week we had our first experiences of managing Covid Cases now that PHA have taken over the process. The criteria being used to identify close contacts are very tight resulting in no class mates in school being identified for those children who had tested positive. This will be our new way of operating and will result in very few pupils now having to isolate.

The fact remains however that pupils who have Covid will still be isolating and I am pleased to say that from Monday 20th September onwards we will be able to provide work upon request if a child is in this situation. Last year we could do this easily as we had staff allocated to the task, however since September all staff are back in school engaged in face to face teaching, and it is only now, a few weeks in, that we can free up staff to do this. We do also understand however that if your child is unwell whilst Covid positive that you may not want work- Therefore it is here as a facility if you wish. Contact the class teacher via Seesaw, to request this and one of the teachers responsible will be in touch.

Seesaw engagement:

You are all now signed up to Seesaw and are seeing the posts for your child. Seesaw is quite expensive and we are happy to spend on it as we feel it will be a good way to promote home school links. However, we need the communication to be a two-way process. Therefore, when the teacher sends a post, we would love some acknowledgement from you either via short written message, voice message or emoji. In the weeks to come we intend to start sharing pieces of pupil work with you and we will be asking you to talk to your child about their work and the teacher's feedback- we would then hope to receive a message back. The thinking behind this is that our children will attain more if their family and teacher are asking the same things from them. Therefore, as a start to this, please engage with us on the posts made by your teacher this week- they go into a lovely class rolling page and we want it to show high levels of two-way communication.



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Uniform:

Thank you so much for the effort you have put into ensuring that your children are dressed in proper school uniform. We are insistent upon this, feeling that it sends out a very positive image of the school and it instils in the children, a sense of pride. However, it is you the parents who make it happen- so I am VERY appreciative.

Best wishes to you all for the weekend ahead,

Mrs Monaghan