

Rhynie Primary School

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5th August 2020

Dear Parents

It does not seem so long ago that we were online learning and looking forward to getting back to some sort of normality. I hope you have enjoyed your holidays. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again.

There is a lot of information in the following letter, so please read it carefully. If you have any questions, please contact the school from Monday 10th August by phone or email. There may need to be further information shared with you once we are back and adjusting to the new school way.

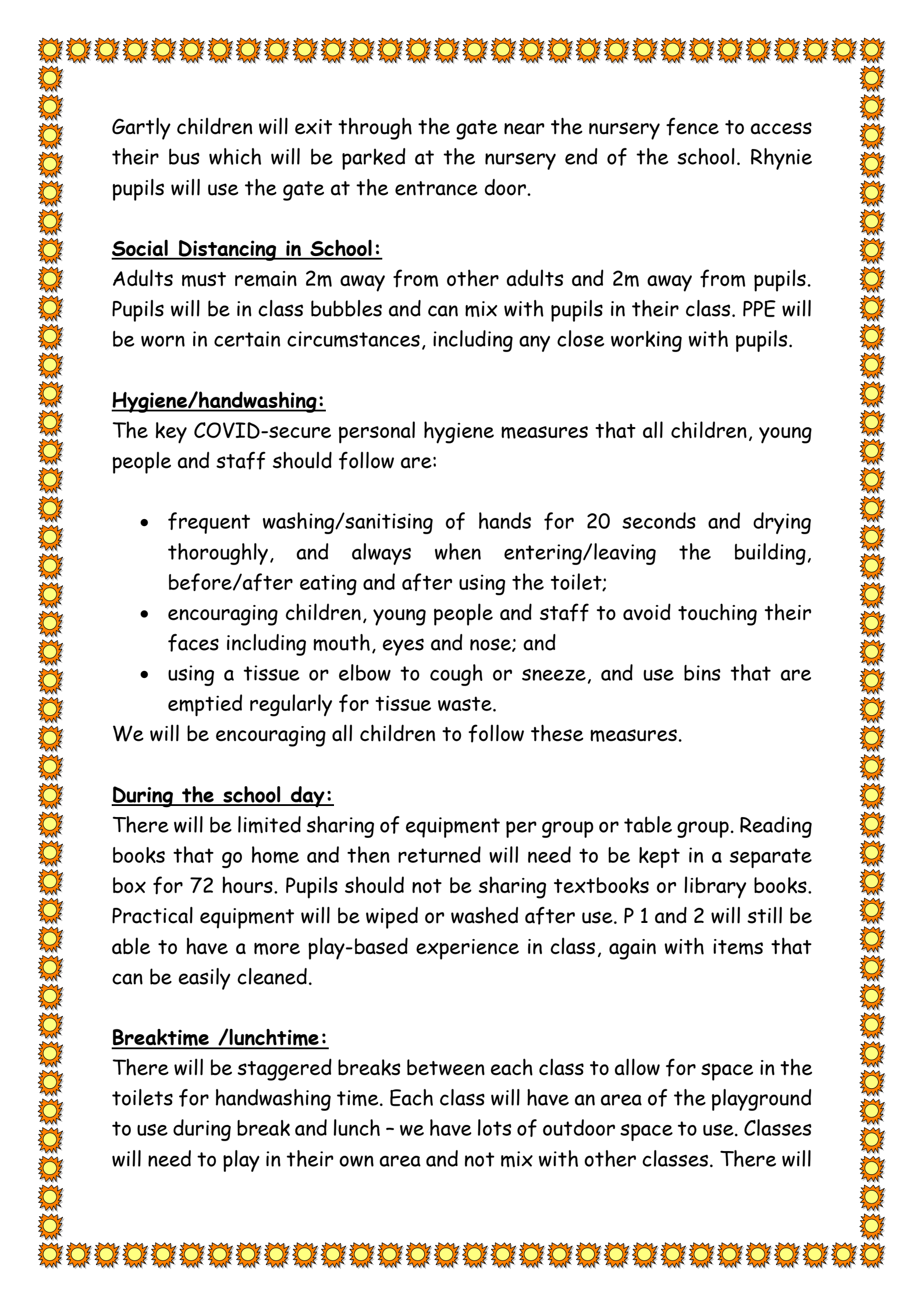
Pupils will return to school on Wednesday August the 12th at 8:55am. We are returning with our normal school hours, Monday - Thursday 8:55-3:15 and Friday 8:55-2pm. Primary 1 will finish at 1:20 for the first two weeks. Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th are in-service days for staff so we can set up for pupils return. I hope you will appreciate the complexity of all the different factors in preparing for a safe re-opening of schools.

Arrival at school:

As social distancing for adults is still in place, please do not congregate at the school gates. Drop off your child at the gate and if you need to wait, please stand across the road at the car park/pavement.

The main door will be the entrance door for class 1 (P1-4), class 2 (P5-7) will enter through the fire door in their classroom and should line up there. Nursery parents will drop off their child in the new nursery outdoor area and should use the gate closer to the nursery.

At the end of the school day, I ask that parents wait on the car park side of the road and stay socially distanced from each other. The teacher will match up pupils with their parents.



Gartly children will exit through the gate near the nursery fence to access their bus which will be parked at the nursery end of the school. Rhyne pupils will use the gate at the entrance door.

Social Distancing in School:

Adults must remain 2m away from other adults and 2m away from pupils. Pupils will be in class bubbles and can mix with pupils in their class. PPE will be worn in certain circumstances, including any close working with pupils.

Hygiene/handwashing:

The key COVID-secure personal hygiene measures that all children, young people and staff should follow are:

- frequent washing/sanitising of hands for 20 seconds and drying thoroughly, and always when entering/leaving the building, before/after eating and after using the toilet;
- encouraging children, young people and staff to avoid touching their faces including mouth, eyes and nose; and
- using a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze, and use bins that are emptied regularly for tissue waste.

We will be encouraging all children to follow these measures.

During the school day:

There will be limited sharing of equipment per group or table group. Reading books that go home and then returned will need to be kept in a separate box for 72 hours. Pupils should not be sharing textbooks or library books. Practical equipment will be wiped or washed after use. P 1 and 2 will still be able to have a more play-based experience in class, again with items that can be easily cleaned.

Breaktime /lunchtime:

There will be staggered breaks between each class to allow for space in the toilets for handwashing time. Each class will have an area of the playground to use during break and lunch - we have lots of outdoor space to use. Classes will need to play in their own area and not mix with other classes. There will

be equipment for each class to use. Children should not bring in their own toys.

Pupils should bring their own snack, there will be no tuckshop available from the kitchen at this time.

Lunches will also be staggered, and lunch will be served in the classroom for the first two weeks. Please click the link to view the lunch options for the tailored meal options:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25375/primarymenustailored2weeks.pdf>

What to bring to school:

For the first two weeks pupils should only bring their jacket, packed lunch, snack and water bottle. Then hopefully week commencing 24th August we will reintroduce indoor shoes and some personal pencil cases etc.

If your child requires their own soap or moisturiser this should be labelled and not shared.

PPE:

Staff and pupils **are not required (but can choose to)** to wear any PPE. However, PPE must be worn when toileting children, dealing with first aid and in the event of anyone feeling unwell or showing symptoms of illness. Classrooms will be well ventilated (doors kept open and windows open).

Showing signs of illness:

If your child is unwell before attending school, please keep them off school until you have contacted the NHS.

Any pupil (or member of staff) who shows any symptom of illness will need to leave school as soon as possible. Parents will need to be able to collect their child at short notice. A parent will always need to be contactable throughout the school day in case we need to contact you about collecting an unwell child. Can you **please contact the school if any of your details have changed** over the summer. Any pupils showing signs of illness will be taken out of class and kept in an area of the school away from others, where

they will stay until the can be collected. The member of staff who is helping that child will be wearing full PPE.

Blended Learning:

This has been put on hold and hopefully will not be needed! However, upon any further lockdowns, blended learning will return. Further information would be shared if this situation occurs. For those parents who have not returned their permission for Seesaw, I kindly ask for you to do so ASAP (it was sent out at the end of last term).

Some other changes:

Initially, PE will be outdoors and children will not be changing their clothes. Pupils can come into school in their PE kits.

There will be no singing, drama or assemblies upon return to school. We await further information about when these can return.

Transport: A separate document will be coming out to those who use school transport. It is recommended that in private hire vehicles (which are typically saloon cars) children and young people travel on the back seat only and, where appropriate, wear face coverings.

Staff hours:

From August, as a school, we have lost 10 hours of PSA time, this is a huge amount of time to lose and we will ensure there is a member of staff outside at break and lunchtime. This will put a strain on our PSAs who will still be working with specific children and groups. I'm hopeful that upon review in October we may be able to increase the PSA hours.

Nursery:

Nursery pupils will be dropped off and collected in their new outside play area. Initially there will be 2 nursery sessions per day, you will be offered one session per day. The 1140 has been postponed, and hopefully will start sometime this school year.

Nursery session times are:

Week commencing 17th August the session times Monday to Friday (2 hours)

Morning session- 9.30am- 11.30am Afternoon session- 12.45pm-2.45pm

Week commencing 24th August the session time Monday to Friday (2 ½ hours)

Morning session- 9.15am-11.45am Afternoon session- 12.45pm- 3.15pm

Week commencing 31st August new session time start Monday to Friday (3hours 10mins)

Morning session- 8.45am- 11.55am Afternoon session- 12.30pm- 3.40pm

Finally:

As per guidance, upon return to school, parents should not enter school buildings unless required. We will also be limiting access to delivery drivers etc who will still need to maintain social distance.

I will be able to take some photos of the classrooms once they are set up and share with you on Tuesday next week.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday.

Miss Crawford