



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of what has been an extremely unusual year, thoughts must turn to September. You will be aware of the latest guidance from Mr Weir on Friday last. While this guidance covers the key areas around reopening, it does not provide definitive answers on what that may look like. While a full return is the objective, reference is made to potential staggered start and end times, blended learning and phased returns for some.

Everyone concerned is keen to see a return to full time schooling for all pupils but we may have to accept that this may not be possible in September. While there will be a focus on returning key year groups (P7, P6, P2) to full time education, other year groups may, initially, have to go through a period of phased return, where they would be educated on site for two days. The remaining three days would involve a blended approach from home.

As a school we are exploring the use of every bit of space we have in order to get your children back. We are awaiting feedback from the Department of Education on the use of alternative premises. I emailed the Department on Monday morning with a list of key concerns. I await a response.

The situation is constantly evolving and, at this moment, we appear to be moving in a positive and speedy exit from lockdown. The plans that we make now in early summer may have changed drastically by September. Let's hope so.

In the meantime, the school staff and Board of Governors will continue to liaise closely as we explore the best scenario for St Joseph's.

Cool Kids

Attached to this email is additional information pertaining to Cool Kids provision for July and August. Please read this carefully and take note of important dates and information.

Regards,
Barry McMahon
Acting Principal



**Shared
Education**

Tel: 92674901 Fax: 9262907
www.stjosephsschool.org
Twitter: @stjosephlisburn



Acting Principal: Mr Barry McMahon
Email: bcmahon827@c2kni.net

Vice Principal: Mrs Pauline Fleming
Email: pfleming930@c2kni.net