



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

'Being the best that we can be'

January Reopening Plans

Dear Parents,

With the promise of a vaccine pending, we must face this period of school closure with a greater degree of certainty and optimism than the last. Nonetheless, it is a further challenge for parents, staff and pupils.

Plan for this week

As it stands, the school will reopen to staff on Wednesday 6th January. This will be a planning day as directed by the Department of Education.

Supervised learning will commence on Thursday 7th January for all pupils.

At this stage, school is due to reopen on Monday 11th January.

Key worker provision

Thank you to everyone who has applied for key worker provision. A significant number of families have applied. We will now set about organising classrooms and supervised learning for these pupils.

Please note that for pupils attending school, we cannot guarantee that they will be kept in class bubbles. It may be necessary to move to year group bubbles instead.

Importantly, and this has been emphasised by various groups, if you have a safe alternative to in-school provision, please avail of it. The message is clear; as a society we must try to limit any large gatherings. Our school doesn't feel the same without pupils, of that we are very aware. But it is yet another sacrifice we must make to limit the spread of coronavirus.

Further information regarding uniform, structure of the day, lunches, etc will be emailed separately to key worker families by Wednesday.

Vulnerable children

I will be in touch with individual families tomorrow (Monday 4th January) in relation to vulnerable children and whether in-school provision is required.

Supervised learning

Just to re-emphasise this point, those pupils who attend school are doing so because there is no safe alternative. All pupils, at home or in school, will be working on the same tasks set by their teachers through our remote learning platforms.



**Shared
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As I have stated before, we will endeavour to provide the best opportunities for our pupils in the days ahead. We cannot predict if the closure will extend beyond this week but we will keep you up to date on any developments.

Thank you for your continued support. If there you have any issues or concerns, the school office will be open from Wednesday or you can email me at bmcMahon827@c2kni.net.

Kind regards,

Barry McMahon
Acting Principal



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