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Return to School

Please find some further information regarding the return to school. Some of the information is a reminder.

School Meals

The first two weeks of term will follow a slightly different menu pattern. The children can select a 'Hot Option' or a 'Cold Option'. The menu can be found here:

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

From Week 3, week beginning Monday 24th August, the menu cycle will revert to the standard cycle. The menu for this can be found here:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25272/interactivemenusspringsummer2020d.pdf>

Please look carefully at the dates at the top of the menu.

Drop off & Pick Up

Drop off and collection at school will remain as normal apart from the fact that all parent/carers and staff will need to maintain 2m distancing. School will start at the normal time of 0915 and end at 1530.

School Uniform

School uniform is welcome but is not compulsory. It is important that children come to school in clean clothing. We also ask that children have a pair of indoor shoes with them as normal.

At this stage we ask that children do not take their own pencils, pencil cases etc. into school. Children can take a school bag with them if they need to carry a packed lunch. We will not be sending reading books home at this stage. Long hair will need to be tied back. Water bottles are allowed and will be sent home each day. It is important that they are cleaned at home each day. PE kit is not required at the moment.

It is important that children take a jacket to school each day as we will be outside often.

We have a collection of free school uniform available. This will be available to view/collect between 0930 and 12pm tomorrow (Tuesday 11th August). This will be placed outside in the playground under the bike shelter to prevent unnecessary social contact.



School Transport

The Council is following Scottish Government guidance on school transport, which in turn reflects the scientific advice of the COVID-19 Advisory Sub Group on Education and Children's issues, published on 16 July and available at the following link <http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-advisory-sub-group-on-education-and-childrens-issues---advisory-note-on-school-transport/>

Due to the need for distancing with the driver there is a minor reduction in the number of pupils who can travel on most school transport vehicles. The school will contact you directly if we are unable to carry your child(ren), otherwise you may presume that transport is available.

What school transport will look like

- Vehicles will be subject to enhanced cleaning especially frequently touched surfaces.
- Windows or skylights will be left open when possible to improve air circulation.
- Drivers will usually wear a face covering.
- At some pick-up locations pupils may be required to stand back when the vehicle arrives to allow the driver to exit the vehicle and open the passenger door.
- Front seats will not be used, to enable pupils to distance from the driver, except buses/coaches fitted with a screen.
- Pupils may be assigned their own seat which they should always use or they may be directed to a designated seating area to sit with pupils of a similar age or year group. Siblings may also be asked to sit together.
- Pupils travelling on school buses/coaches do not need to wear face coverings, unless clinically advised to do so, but they may be worn if preferred.
- Pupils travelling on school taxis and private hire cars must wear a face covering unless medically exempt and failure to do so may result in your child being refused travel. In the case of pupils with additional support needs there is a presumption that they will be unable to wear a face covering.
- On Additional Support Needs school transport any Personal Assistants will ordinarily wear a face covering or PPE.
- Some schools may stagger bus departure times at the end of the school day to reduce the number of pupils leaving the school at the same time.

Steps that parents or carers can take to help

- Do not allow your child(ren) to travel if they or a member of your household have symptoms of COVID-19. If children display symptoms you should arrange for a test.
- Ensure your child(ren) sanitise their hands, either with soap and water or sanitiser, prior to boarding the vehicle to go to school. Pupils may carry sanitiser on the bus if they wish but should be careful not to spill it on the vehicle floor as this could cause a slip hazard.
- Encourage your child(ren) to follow the "Catch it, kill it, bin it" health advice by carrying tissues and disposing of these responsibly.
- Advise your child(ren) that they must not consume or share food or drink on school transport.
- Remind your child(ren) that they should look after their belongings carefully and not leave anything behind on the bus. Any face coverings found on the vehicle will be destroyed.
- If your child travels in a taxi or private hire car, make sure that they are wearing a face mask before boarding the vehicle.

Most school transport times remain unchanged. Pick-up times are available from the operator.

If you have any concerns about your child's school transport please contact the Passenger Transport Unit on school.transport@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or tel. 01467 533 335.



As the symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to a wide range of other illnesses, it is vital that we are all very vigilant. If we have concerns regarding symptoms that your child develops during the school day, we will contact you to collect your child immediately and arrange a test. I also ask that if you are aware of or concerned about any symptoms that your child develops at home, please do not send them to school. If a household member has symptoms, your child must also stay off school. As we get closer to the cold/flu season this will become more difficult but we all must take the necessary steps to protect everyone in our school.

We need to ensure that you all consider a self-declaration process before sending your child to school.

BARTHOL CHAPEL SCHOOL COVID-19 SELF-DECLARATION



I can confirm that my child **does not have**:

- a high temperature or fever
- a new continuous cough
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

I can confirm my child **does not** live with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19.

YES, I CAN CONFIRM = Child **CAN** attend school
NO, I CANNOT CONFIRM = Child **CANNOT** attend school

Continue to stay safe!

Yours sincerely

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Mr Adrian Anderson
Head Teacher

