



Thursday 11th June, 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Head Teachers across the Meldrum Cluster are working together to plan for the return to school in August. From the 15th June, we will have small groups of staff accessing our school buildings to plan and implement these arrangements. Although digital/online learning will continue during this time, there will be less online support available on the days when staff are in school.

It is appreciated that we will all have many questions about the months ahead. Here are some of the facts that we are certain our 'new normal' will look like across the Meldrum Cluster:

- Each school will have to reduce the size of classes and reduce the number of pupils in school at any one time.
- Each school will have to keep children in the same small groups during their time in school.
- Each school will need to put in place clear protocols/timings for drop offs and pick-ups at the beginning and end of the school day.
- Each school will need to increase the frequency of cleaning.
- Each school will need to reduce the use of shared items and equipment in class and utilise outdoor space to provide educational experiences.

Details outlining school transport arrangement and school lunch arrangements are still being finalised.

For clarification, **no pupils will be expected to return to Meldrum Cluster Primary Schools before the summer holidays**. All pupils will be given the opportunity at some point from 11th August and during August to experience time in school.

This does mean that some of our new Primary 1 pupils will not be able to visit the school prior to August. We guarantee that come August, our transition process into school will take this into consideration.

In our plans for our return, we will be considering how we can accommodate social distancing which has been so important in reducing the spread of COVID-19. This means that we will have to think differently about how we deliver learning and it is our plan to have a blended approach of in-school and learning at home. Further details will be given around what this means for each child and family prior to the summer holidays.

This will be very different for all of us and we understand that this temporary way of learning will mean that families need to make adjustments for work and childcare arrangements and so it is important for you to know prior to the start of the summer holidays, in order to be able to make these arrangements.





Things are constantly evolving and changing and your school will always try to get communication right. Information will be shared through our usual methods. In particular there is likely to be communication which is relevant specifically for your child/ren which may not be the same as for other families, so it is essential that you follow any guidance which is given to you directly. We will endeavour to keep you updated with what our plans are prior to the end of term.

In the meantime, please stay safe and we thank you for your patience, support and understanding as always.

Yours Sincerely

Meldrum Cluster Head Teachers

- Adrian Anderson, Head Teacher, Barthol Chapel School*
- Alison Gagne, Head Teacher & Nicole Scott, Head Teacher (Acting), Cultercullen School*
- Su Padfield, Head Teacher, Daviot School*
- Lizzie McMahon, Head Teacher, Logie Durno School*
- Ian Jackson, Head Teacher (Acting), Meldrum Academy*
- Carol Harper, Head Teacher (Acting), Meldrum Primary School*
- Colette Fraser, Head Teacher, Methlick School*
- Laura Dlugonski, Head Teacher, Old Rayne School*
- Janet Hill, Head Teacher, Pitmedden School*
- Stephanie Stephen, Head Teacher, Rayne North School*
- Rachel Wood, Head Teacher, Rothienorman School*
- Lara Conn, Head Teacher, Tarves School*
- Emma Gibb, Head Teacher, Udny Green School*

