



Learning together,
building for the future

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06 January 2021

EXTENSION OF REMOTE LEARNING

Dear Parent / Carer,

The Department of Education (N.I) have now confirmed that remote learning is to carry on into the February half-term. Re-opening dates are yet to be confirmed and I share in both your concern and disappointment that this course of action has been deemed necessary based upon the latest scientific and public health advice.

Key Worker Provision

Key workers are entitled to request a place for their child at school and the Education Minister has emphasised that only one parent is required to be a keyworker. While this is the case, I would respectfully ask that parents and carers *only avail of this service where absolutely necessary*. Where a parent remains at home, or is available for childcare, this is the safest place for children to be at the present time.

Parents wishing to request a place for their child should:

- 1) Complete the attached '**Application Form for Key Worker Children and those with a statement of SEN**' outlining how they meet the criteria if they wish to be considered for the offer of a place.
- 2) Email the completed form to rgraham577@c2kni.net by **12noon on Saturday 09 January 2021.**
- 3) Await a response from school seeking further information or confirming a place at school for their child(ren).

Before applying for a Key Worker Place – Points to Consider:

- If possible, alternative childcare arrangements should be sought before deciding to send your child to school. For example, with other family members aged 14 or over, friends etc. Please try and use schools as a last resort. **This is to try and limit the number of children and adults together in line with recent guidance.**
- Children attending will be required to wear school uniform and require a packed lunch each day as school meals are unlikely to be available.
- Please be advised that schools will be performing childcare duties and ‘supervising learning’, rather than face to face teaching.
- Note that school will operate the normal school day times for children and that all children finish on Fridays at 2pm.

Once key information has been gathered and decisions made, only families with an offer of a place should attend the school.

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Need

Parents of children who have a statement of ‘Special Educational Need’ are entitled to request places at school and can apply for a ‘Supervised learning’ place by:

- 1) Completing the attached ‘**Application Form for Key Worker Children and those with a statement of SEN**’.
- 2) Email the completed form to rgraham577@c2kni.net **by 12noon on Saturday 09 January 2021.**
- 3) Await a response from school seeking further information or confirming a place at school for their child(ren).

**Before applying for a place for a child with a statement of Special Educational Need-
Points to consider**

- ‘Face to face teaching will not take place- ‘supervised learning’ will be provided as staff will also be engaging with remote learning activities through Seesaw / Google Classroom.
- Typical procedures such as specified Classroom Assistant cover if your child has additional needs cannot be guaranteed.
- Children attending will be required to wear school uniform and bring their own packed lunch.
- Note that school will operate the normal school day for children and that all children finish on Fridays at 2pm.

Once key information has been gathered and decisions made only families with an offer of a place should attend the school.

Remote Learning for all other pupils

All pupils not attending school are expected to engage in remote learning during this time. Classes will continue to use **Seesaw** (Mrs Harbinson / Miss Taggart) and **Google Classroom** (Mr Graham / Mr Irwin) for home learning, providing work for children on the core subjects- literacy and mathematics. Teaching staff will be available to provide feedback and answer queries via Google Classroom / Seesaw during their working hours. Please note that teaching staff will be involved in 'supervised learning' on a rota basis also- this may delay their ability to provide feedback as quickly as they would like to.

Please note that in order for children to receive their attendance mark, they must engage in remote learning.

Paper 'Home-Learning' Packs

Families wishing to request paper home-learning packs from their child's class teacher should:

1) Contact their child's class teacher directly **by Seesaw, Google Classroom or email by Sunday 10 January 2021 at 5pm** to request this.

Mrs Harbinson- aharbinson846@c2kni.net

Miss Taggart- staggart516@c2kni.net

Mr Graham- rgraham577@c2kni.net

Mr Irwin- sirwin324@c2kni.net

2) Arrange to have their **weekly paper packs** collected from school **each Monday between 2pm and 3pm** and, at the same time, return the completed pack from the week before.

3) Parents selecting paper home-learning packs are asked that, where possible, they photograph completed work daily and send these photographs to their child's teacher via Seesaw / Google Classroom / email. This will allow assessment and feedback to be sent to the child within 24 hours of the work being completed.

Keeping in touch

As before, parents can request a phone call from their child's teacher by making contact with them directly via e-mail, Seesaw or Google Classroom. While we know some children will appreciate and enjoy this, we also recognise that some children might find this intrusive. Although school will remain in regular contact with families during this period of time, we are encouraging those who feel their child would benefit from this particular form of contact to let their child's teacher know.

Yours sincerely



Principal

LIST OF KEY WORKERS AS OUTLINED ON DOCUMENTATION ISSUED TO SCHOOLS ON 31 DECEMBER 2020

Please work with us to ensure that schools operate with a limited number of children and staff

- Health and Social Care. This includes doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, home carers and staff required to maintain our health and social care sector
- Education and childcare. This includes nursery and teaching staff, non-teaching staff, social workers and those specialist education professionals who will remain active during the Covid-19 response
- Public safety and national security. This includes civilians and officers in the police (including key contractors), Fire and Rescue Service, prison service and other national security roles
- Transport. This will include those keeping air, water, road and rail transport modes operating during the Covid-19 response
- Utilities and Communication. This includes staff needed for oil, gas, electricity and water (including sewage) and primary industry supplies, to continue during the Covid-19 response, as well as key staff in telecommunications, post and delivery, services and waste disposal
- Food and other necessary goods. This includes those involved in food production, processing, distribution and sale, as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (eg hygiene, medical etc)
- Retail. This includes those workers who have been working throughout the pandemic in food retail.
- Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.