

-o-o- Back to Ballytober! -o-o-

The "Northern Ireland Re-opening Schools Guidance" Version 2 was finally published on 13th August. The document includes guidance on starting the process of return for primary and secondary pupils. The Minister of Education has stated that P7 pupils should return to school on Monday 24th August, with a full return for all children during the following week. With this in mind, a phased return for Ballytober pupils has now been organised.

Monday 24th : P1 girls and P7.....9.00am to 12 noon

Tuesday 25th : P1 boys, P3 and P7.....9.00am to 12 noon

Wednesday 26th : P1 altogether, P4 and P7.....9.00am to 12 noon

Thursday 27th : P1 altogether, P5 and P7.....9.00am to 12 noon

Friday 28th : P2 and P6.....9.00am to 12 noon

Full school uniform should be worn, even for the familiarisation sessions. Schoolbags are not currently required and shouldn't be brought to school. Each child should bring their pencil case on their first day, with writing pencils, coloured pencils, sharpener, rubber, ruler and Pritt Stick. These need to be clearly labelled as they will be kept in school for the rest of term. The children also need to bring their own sanitiser and packet of paper tissues. Again, these will be kept at their desk and should be labelled with their name.

As you can see, each individual year group from P2 to P6 will have a familiarisation morning on specified days. This will provide everyone with an opportunity to experience school before a return to full-time hours.

School will be closed on Monday 31st August for the Bank Holiday. It will open to all classes on Tuesday 1st September for full-time provision.

Details regarding drop-off and collection times are currently being finalised. These are one of the many decisions to be taken this week, taking the latest guidance into consideration. All relevant information will then be distributed to you once it has been fully discussed.

Please contact me if you require any further clarification on the above information. Your patience is appreciated as the arrangements for the 2020-21 school year are finalised.

Elaine Anderson

Principal