

Education Resources Executive Director Tony McDaid Woodside Primary Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick

Our ref:Face masksYour ref:Face masksIf calling ask for:ERPhone:01698 427811Date:28th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Face Coverings Update - Primary Schools

As you may be aware the Scottish Government announced changes to the wearing of face coverings in schools and on school transport. These changes will be implemented from 31st August 2020.

This means that from **Monday all pupils aged 5** and over will be expected to wear a face covering on school transport, just as they already do on public transport.

Unlike secondary schools, there is no requirement for primary pupils to wear face coverings during the school day, unless they choose to do so.

We understand that some children may not be able to wear a face covering due to an underlying health condition or additional support need. This may be something that could change over time if the opportunity of individual support was provided to the young person to assist in overcoming any potential barriers to wearing a face covering. Any parents wishing to consider this should contact the school.

We appreciate that children may feel more comfortable in using their own face coverings however please be assured that a supply of re-usable face coverings will be available within school if required.

The safety and wellbeing of children, young people and staff is paramount and your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Elaine Renwick

Head Teacher

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Our ref:Week 2Your ref:ERIf calling ask for:ERPhone:01698 427811Date:27th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Return to school update - Week 2

As we speed towards the end of our second full week in school I wanted to give you a few updates regarding school life.

The children are all coping extremely well with our new routines, classroom life and lunchtime organisation. They are truly remarkable and their behaviour has been fantastic. I am very proud of all of them. Many of our new systems are a big hit with the children, especially the new lunchtime set up. The children are enjoying having their packed lunch in the gym hall and lunchtime has become a much more chilled and social experience for everybody!

A special 'Well Done' to all our Primary 1 children who have confidently walked into school every day this week by themselves. This has been a huge achievement and I am sure a wee bit emotional for all their parents too!

<u>Gates</u>

This week we have noticed that the volume of parents still standing for prolonged periods at the gates has reduced. Thank you for dropping off, picking up and moving on. We need to continue with this approach in order to keep everyone safe. We aim to have our Primary 1 children ready and at the gate for 2.45pm. This ensures they are all collected safely before our Primary 2 and 3 children then exit.

Waterproof jackets and coats

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing a waterproof jacket or coat. August has not been kind to us and most days we will try to let the children out to play unless it is torrential rain. We also plan to incorporate outdoor learning opportunities most weeks too when possible. Due to the current restrictions we are unable to bring children into school early on wet mornings.

Water bottles

Following SLC guidance a staff member is required to refill water bottles as children are unable to do this own their own at present. As you can imagine in a school our size this is a very time consuming process. If at all possible, could you please provide two bottles of water for your child, or a large water bottle if they drink lots throughout the day? Please ensure bottles are only filled with plain water as many are spilling into trays and making the contents sticky.

Many thanks,

Elaine Renwick Head Teacher