

# Eglinton Primary School



Principal: E McGuinness

Tel: 02871 810510

Fax: 02871 812297

Email: [info@eglinton.londonderry.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@eglinton.londonderry.ni.sch.uk)

[www.eglintonps.co.uk](http://www.eglintonps.co.uk)

22 Woodvale Road  
Eglinton  
Co Londonderry  
BT47 3AH

17<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## Starting School Information

Dear Parent,

I hope you are having a relaxing summer, below I have outlined plans for our reintroduction to the new school year 21-22.

As we await confirmation of the new guidance from the Department of Education I am writing with some measures we will maintain for the beginning of the new term, to introduce the children safely back to school. Our aim for the new academic year, 2021/22, is to continue to deliver the curriculum in a safe and welcoming school environment.

### Restart aims

- Eglinton PS is a safe place for pupils and staff.
- Eglinton PS is a welcoming, friendly and nurturing school environment for pupils and staff.

### Starting school

All our measures introduced last year will remain in place for the first few weeks, and reviewed regularly. Children will continue to 'Bubble' within their Key Stages; Foundation Stage (Years 1 and 2), Key Stage 1 (Years 3 and 4) and Key Stage 2 (Years 5, 6, and 7). The children will continue to enter through the relevant doors to get to their classroom.

We continue to encourage:

- the importance of washing their hands regularly throughout the day (wash hands while singing the 'Happy Birthday' song twice).
- Pupils know to follow the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' virus control measures, use tissues or inside of their elbow to sneeze and cough into.
- Pupils know and understand that the need to avoid touching their face, in particular eyes, nose and mouth as much as possible.
- All pupils must bring their own individual water bottle as drinking fountains will still be out of use.
- All children should wear school uniform.

- Children must only bring essential items to school (snack, water bottle, lunchbox).









### Key Dates





Date	Arrangements	Times
Week beginning 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	All staff will be on site to prepare for the new school year.	
Week beginning 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	<b>Year 1 and Nursery</b> children will be invited for their induction to Eglinton PS. Parents will be provided with a date and time to attend.	Parents have been given a date and time to attend.
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 2-7, start the new term. Dinner will be served from today.	Registration from 9am
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Bank Holiday No children in school	
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Year 1 children phased into school	
<p><b>Please note Breakfast will start from the beginning of term. Children can come to school from 8am, breakfast served from 8:15am.</b></p> <p><b>SPARK Club will hopefully beginning in September. This will be reviewed depending on current risk factors.</b></p>		

### School Day

- The school day will begin at 9:00. Children can arrive between 8:50 and 9:10. This school allow children to filter into school and minimise contact whilst arriving.
- Pupils will be assigned a specific door to enter the building, according to their classroom
- Parents are encouraged to stay in their cars during drop off and collection. Adults will be outside to guide the children to their gate and entrance.
- To help to keep everyone in the school community safe, we ask that families avoid congregating in groups and follow social distancing at all times.
- We will provide pupils with the opportunity to wash hands their hands on arrival and throughout the day.

## Entry Points

	Entrance Gate	Entrance Door
Nursery	<b>Nursery gate</b> 	<b>Nursery door</b> 
Breakfast club	<b>Front corridor door</b> 	<b>Main Hall</b> 
Year 1 and Year 2	<b>Left silver gate</b> 	<b>Year 1 door</b> 
Year 3 and 4	<b>Right side gate</b> 	<b>Entrance 1</b> 

<b>Year 5 and 6</b>	<b>Left side gate</b> 	<b>Entrance 3</b> 
<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Left side gate.</b> 	

### Homework

- Our initial focus will be on the smooth and safe reintegration of the children into school.
- Children will not receive homework in the initial weeks as teachers will need time to get to know their new class (with the exception of Year 7).

### Break and Lunch time

- School meals will operate from Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Children will go to the dinner hall within their Key Stage 'Bubble'. Dinner money should be paid at the beginning of the week in a named envelope. Details of the revised menu will be issued in due course.
- Children can bring a packed lunch if desired.
- Break and lunch times have been organised to ensure that just members of the Key Stage bubble play together in the playground.

### Hygiene

Regular and thorough attention to hygiene is essential to deter spread of the virus.

Handwashing will be timetabled and supervised throughout the school day. Classrooms and public areas including entrances/exits will be equipped with sanitisers. Regular cleaning of surfaces will take place to ensure the highest standards in safety.

The continuation of safe routines is essential as we move forward and enter

our school year. Reinforce the “catch it, bin it, kill it” approach and coughing into the elbow if they don’t have a tissue.

Children will be discouraged from touching their eyes, face, nose and mouth, putting hands/fingers into their mouths.

### **Suspected Case of COVID-19**



If your child or any member of your family is unwell with suspected COVID 19, please follow the health guidance. Children who are unwell must stay at home. Children can return to school if they have had a negative result and have been temperature free for 48 hours.

If during the school day, a child presents with any symptoms of COVID 19, (elevated temperature, continuous cough, change in taste/smell) he/she will be removed from the class ‘bubble’ and taken to the designated isolation room where he/she will be supervised until collected. Only children who have tested positive will have to isolate.





### **Pupils with medical needs**



**Please contact us on the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> August and prior to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021 if your child has medical needs that will affect their return to school.**

### **End of Day - Exit/Collection Points**

	<b>Exit Door/Gate</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Nursery gate</b> 	<b>Times will vary</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Left silver gate</b> 	<b>Initially 12 noon</b>



<b>Year 2</b>		<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Right side gate.</b> 	<b>2:45pm</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Right side gate.</b> 	<b>2:55pm</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Left side gate</b> 	<b>2:55pm</b>

<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Left side gate.</b> 	<b>3:00pm</b>
<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Left side gate</b> 	<b>3:05pm</b>

**To allow for social distancing and minimum contact we ask that all parents stay in their cars until their children are out and that families leave promptly when all children have been collected.**

#### **Visitors to school-**

We want the school community to remain protected and for that reason we will be adhering to strict guidelines on visitor access to the school. Visitors will be asked to phone the office prior to visiting the school.

Should parents need to collect children during the school day, they will also need to phone the office and we will arrange safe collection.

We hope these measures will not be in place for long and we can resume to a more informal approach very soon. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to speak to us. You will always receive a warm response and assistance will be provided as normal. We are still here for our whole school community, even if it is at a distance.

Kind regards

E. McGuinness