



Weekly Update
Friday 19th February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this finds you and your loved ones continuing to stay safe and well.

Following the First Minister’s announcement on Tuesday, you will be aware that there are a number of changes proposed for schools as of Monday 22nd February. In addition to the communication sent earlier this week, I hope that you find the following information useful.

Joanne Hunter 😊

Acting Leader of Learning

Nursery and P1-3 Pupil Return:

We look forward to welcoming our Nursery and P1-3 pupils back to full-time, in-school learning. A reminder of start and finish times, as well as entry and exit arrangements, is shown in the table below. Information for those pupils attending our Key Worker bubbles is also included. **Please note the change of entry and exit arrangements for bubble pupils.**

Class	Arrival time	Dismissal time Mon - Thurs	Dismissal time Friday	Entry Point	Exit Point
Nursery	8:30	3:00	12:30	Nursery gate	Nursery gate
P1	8:50	3:20	12:05	P1 fire door	P1 fire door
P2	8:45	3:15	12:00	P2 fire door	Main playground door
P3	8:40	3:10	11:55	P3 fire door	Pupils will be walked to the main school gate by school staff
P4/5 Key worker pupils	8:45	3:20	12:00	P5 fire door	Pupils will be walked to the main school gate by school staff
P6/7 Key worker pupils	8:40	3:10	11:55	P7 fire door	Pupils will be walked to the main school gate by school staff

Health and Safety Reminders:

- As per Midlothian Guidance, we request that each pupil is accompanied by **only one adult**, when entering the school grounds. We are asking all adults to keep a **2m distance** from anyone **not in their own household**, and to wear a face covering if able to do so. To avoid congestion at our nursery gate, we would encourage nursery parents/carers to use our garden as a waiting space. Children will be brought to the nursery gate, by staff, and dismissed one at a time.

- Whilst we are always keen to welcome our families into our school grounds, we request that parents/carers **do not** arrive early for drop off and pick up, as this adds to congestion, particularly when other class groups are passing. If bringing younger siblings please ensure that they are closely supervised at all times. Unfortunately we are unable to allow them access to school outdoor play equipment at this time.

Parking and Vehicle Access

- Please note that there will be **no vehicle access to school grounds except for pupil taxis, blue badge holders and staff**. Parents and carers without the appropriate permits are asked to use the Visitors Car Park and other parking areas outside the school grounds. A member of management will be present at the school gate to supervise/manage access. Thank you for your support in implementing this important safety measure.

Remote Learning Arrangements P4-7:

Those P4-7 pupils who have been learning at home, on Google Classroom, SeeSaw or using printed work packs should continue to do. Our Home School Practitioner, Elaine Baur, will collect and deliver work packs, as usual, and contact individual families to arrange drop off and pick up of learning materials.

Staffing arrangements:

The full-time return of younger pupils means that we have had to make some adjustments to organisation of staff delivering on-site and remote learning.

Please be assured that whether in school, or learning at home, your child will continue to receive carefully planned, high quality, learning experiences and constructive, informative feedback. Our staff team will continue to liaise closely with one another to ensure that appropriate adjustments are made to pupil learning where necessary. This may mean slight alterations in the timing of teacher feedback, but staff will endeavour to keep this to a minimum. In the event that your child is really unsure of a task, we would encourage them to move onto another piece of work until a member of staff is available to support them.

Class Organisation

Nursery: Pupils will be welcomed back by Mrs Murdoch (Senior EYP) supported by Miss Millar, Mrs Elrick, Mrs Donaldson and Mrs Carroll-Stevenson. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Ferrier to our team. Mrs Ferrier will work Monday - Friday.

Primary 1: P1 pupils will be taught, in school, by Miss Stewart Monday- Friday. Mrs Kristoffersen will continue to offer support in Literacy. Our PE Specialist, Mrs Thom, will teach the class on a Wednesday afternoon - delivering learning in PE and Health and Well Being. Pupils should come dressed in their outdoor PE kit on a Wednesday.

Primary 2: P2 pupils will be taught, in school, by Mr Green on a Monday and Tuesday and by Miss Prior on a Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Mrs Kristoffersen will continue to offer support in Literacy. Mrs Green and Miss Prior will inform parents/carers about PE days.

Primary 3: P3 pupils will be taught, in school, by Miss Allum Monday- Friday. Mrs Kristoffersen will continue to offer support in Literacy. Mrs Green will teach the class on a Wednesday afternoon. Miss Allum will inform parents/carers about PE days.

Primary 4: Tasks will be posted on the P4 Google Classroom. These will be managed by Mrs Burgess, with support from Mrs Kristoffersen in Phonics and Reading. Mrs Burgess will lead our P4/5 bubble on a Wednesday, Thursday, Friday so the Google Classroom will also be supported Mrs Valentine. Mrs Green will provide tasks for those P4 pupils who are preparing for the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Primary 5: Tasks will be posted on the P5 Google Classroom. These will be managed by Mrs Wiseman Monday – Wednesday and Mrs Valentine Wednesday – Friday. In addition to Google Classroom, Mrs Wiseman will lead our P4/5 bubble on a Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Kristoffersen will support in providing Phonics and Reading tasks for some pupils.

Primary 6 and 7: The formation of a P6/7 Google Classroom has been a great success, with Miss Wilkinson and Mr Paterson continuing with a team-teaching arrangement. Mr Paterson now will lead our P6/7 bubble Monday – Wednesday and lead the Google Classroom on a Thursday and Friday. Miss Wilkinson will lead the Google Classroom Monday – Wednesday and the P6/7 bubble on a Thursday and Friday. Both teachers will continue to liaise closely to ensure that tasks are appropriately differentiated and targeted according to the needs of individual pupils. On occasion, some tasks may be in common for both stages. Miss Stewart will continue to provide tasks for those P7 pupils who are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Pupil Chrome Books

We would ask that any pupil who is returning to school, and has had the use of a Midlothian or school Chrome Book, bring the device back to school with them on Monday. For pupils in P1-3, the devices will be kept in school for in-class learning. For children attending our P4/5 and P6/7 bubbles, these should be taken home at the end of each day and brought into school on the days that pupils attend. **Please remember to bring the charger too!**

Google Meets

As part of our Remote Learning programme teaching staff are planning to host Google Meets, with classes, week beginning 22nd February. These will initially take the form of short Meet and Greet sessions, where pupils can meet with their teachers and classmates using the face to face facility on Google Classroom. Meetings will take place during usual school hours. If your child is attending school they will be able to participate under the supervision of school staff. Class teachers will organise the Google Meet and be in-charge at all times. Pupils will not be left on a meeting unsupervised.

Please note - pupils will only be able to access the Google Meet by logging onto their Google Classroom. We ask that either you or they post a message on the Google Classroom to say that they agree to follow the St Andrew's RC Primary School Remote Learning Code of Conduct. Only once we have received this agreement will your child's teacher add their name to the list of invites for future meetings.

Should you have any further questions about Google Meets or the Code of Conduct please contact your child's teacher, via the Google Classroom, or our school office for additional information.

MUGA update

We are very excited to announce that the extension to our astro-surface games area is now complete! Midlothian grounds staff have braved the wintery conditions and have done a wonderful job. Keep an eye on Twitter for photos of their hard work.

These changes will make a great difference to our access to outdoor play space - particularly during wet weather. Thanks again to our Parent Council for their generous donation in meeting some of the cost of the works.

Communication:

Here at St Andrew's, we take pride in the positive relationships that we have built across our school community. Thank you to all of our parents and carers who have been able to talk to staff or respond to their messages and emails, over recent weeks.

We are very aware that parents and carers have many demands on their time, and do understand that not everyone is able to accept a phone call during the school day. Please do not worry if you see that you have missed a teacher's call. If you are able to drop our school office a short email, to let us know how everyone is doing, then that would be much appreciated. There is also the messaging facility on the Google Classroom which can be used to contact your child's teacher. Remember – we are here to help.

Have a lovely weekend.

Thank you for your continued support.

