



STRAID PRIMARY SCHOOL



Principal: D Boyd

Telephone No: (028) 93352686

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3 Irish Hill Road

Straid

Ballyclare

BT39 9NQ

3rd April 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Let me begin by saying a very big thank you to you for your support and kindness expressed over the last few weeks during what has and remains a very challenging time not only in our country but all over the world.

I would also like to thank all Staff and Board of Governors for their dedication at this time and their continuous resilience to adapt to the many new and often very challenging situations.

The following are the arrangements for the next few weeks to come as well as some reminders of some previous advice:

Easter Holidays

Easter holidays will take place as previously communicated to you at the start of the year as follows:

Wednesday 8th April- Easter holidays begin

Monday 20th April- Staff Development Day (SEN) Children not required to complete schoolwork today

Tuesday 21st April- Start of Term 3 and beginning of daily Online Learning Lessons

Please note: Any parent who falls in the key worker category or has a child(ren) who fall into the vulnerable child category (named below) should contact me at the following email address: dboyd220@c2kni.net or at the new school mobile number [07907017393](tel:07907017393) so that arrangements can be made for your child(ren) to be cared for in another school.

LIST OF KEY WORKERS AS OUTLINED ON DOCUMENTATION ISSUED TO SCHOOLS ON 19TH MARCH 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, 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 (e.g hygiene, medical etc)
- Key national and local government including those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of the Covid-19 response.

**Definition of Vulnerable children as defined by correspondence from
Derek Baker (Permanent Secretary) Office**

Vulnerable children are those children who are in need of protection, or in need, as defined by the Children (NI) Order 1995. Children and young people in need may include those:

- Receiving support from Health & Social Services including family support, child protection and looked after children services
- On the Child Protection Register
- With statements of special educational needs
- Accessing EOTAS
- Accessing Education Nurture Units
- With emerging and diagnosed mental health needs
- Who are homeless
- Who are young carers
- Subject to paramilitary threat
- Whose parents have mental health problems
- Whose parents have alcohol and drug addictions
- Affected by domestic violence

Online Learning

Spellings/Tables/Lessons for the week beginning **Tuesday 21st April** with attached resources will be emailed to you by **5pm on Monday 20th April**. You may, if you wish, continue with the suggested timetable format below that was previously sent to parents on Monday 23rd March however it is understood that this may not be possible in some circumstances and flexibility may be required. Please complete what you can manage. If this is difficult to do, please prioritise Literacy and Numeracy.

Foundation Stage- 5-10 mins per activity unless otherwise stated by your class teacher. You may find that you spend many minutes trying to get them to sit at all! Try the activity in a more practical way using things they love like tractors for counting, chalk/whiteboard work for letter formation. (Spellings/Tables practice should last 5 minutes- please use parent spelling ideas sent home in the paper packs)

Key Stage 1- 10-15 mins per activity unless otherwise stated by your class teacher. Children should be easier to settle to work, but if not follow the same guide as for Foundation Stage. (Spellings/Tables practice should last 5-10 minutes- please use parent spelling ideas sent home in paper packs)

Key Stage 2- 15-20 mins per activity unless otherwise stated by your class teacher. Children should be must more able to work independently at this stage. However please make sure they have read the instruction for the activity and know how to complete it before starting! (Spellings/Tables practice should last 10 minutes- please use parent spelling ideas sent home in paper packs)

Please try to ensure that your child has a special space/area in which to settle to work every day.

Please also remember that your teachers are available at the following times from Monday to Friday if required- 9.00am-3.00pm (non-contact teacher time between 1.00pm and 2.00pm for lunch)

Suggested Daily Timetable for Pupils

Early morning session- 9.00am

**Spellings
Literacy Time
Reading
ICT Activity Practice**

Break Time-10.30am

Late morning session- 11.00am

**Mental Maths
Numeracy Time
Tables Practice
ICT Activity Practice**

Dinner Time-12.30pm

**Afternoon session- 1.30pm
World Around Us Project Work
Practical activity of your child's choice**

Contacts List

School mobile number: [07907017393](tel:07907017393)

Please note the following guidelines for use:

- 1) **This is an emergency number**- you may still contact Miss Barr, Miss Christie and Mrs. Boyd through email in the event of a non-emergency,
 - 2) You may contact this number from **9.00am-5.00pm**,
 - 3) If you have been unable to speak to a member of staff, **please leave a message**, someone will return your call as soon as possible,
 - 4) **Key workers/carers of vulnerable children may use this number if they need to organise supported learning for their child(ren). Mrs. Boyd is happy to facilitate this.**
- Please note- Teacher supported learning will be organised as placement in a neighbouring school due to the closure of Straid PS since Monday 23rd March and should only be used if there is no other child-minding option.

Email contacts: dboyd220@c2kni.net
hbarr197@c2kni.net
cchristie829@c2kni.net

Pastoral Care/Safeguarding contact: dboyd220@c2kni.net
(Any safeguarding issue will be dealt with the utmost importance and urgency)

Website: www.traidprimary.com

Finally, may I on behalf of the Staff and Board of Governors wish you and all your loved ones continued good health and a relaxing Easter Break.

Kind Regards,
Mrs. Boyd