

**AUGHNACLOY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**1 Carnteel Road, Aughnacloy, Co Tyrone, BT69 6DU.**  
**Telephone: (028) 85557316**  
**<http://www.aughnacloyps.co.uk>**  
email: jclarke293@c2kni.net

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year at Aughnacloy Primary School. We trust you all had an enjoyable summer. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the 21 new pupils to Primary 1, as well as 2 other pupils who have transferred from other schools. We all hope you enjoy your time at Aughnacloy Primary School.

All children will return to school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August. There will be a staggered drop off between 8.45am & 9.00am. Children DO NOT wear school uniform on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. Children will need to bring a small, healthy snack and their water bottle. A smooth transition from one class to the next is very important for all children in school. Normally each year children transition to their new classes in late June, to allow them to meet their new teacher and have a feel for their new classroom and to become familiar with their new surroundings. Unfortunately, due to COVID and children having to strictly adhere to class bubbles, we were not able to have that transition for each child in June, nor were we able to have the P.1 induction days. Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August will be a transition day for each class, as well as an induction day for the new P.1 children and their parents.

**Pickup times 27/8/21** – (older children can go home with their younger siblings)

- ✓ P.1 – 11.55am
- ✓ P.2 – 12.00 noon
- ✓ P3 – 12.05pm
- ✓ P4 – 12.10pm
- ✓ P5 – 12.15pm
- ✓ P6/7– 12.20pm

The core measures that underpin the Department of Education's guidance for Primary Education for September, 2021, emphasise:

- enhanced hand hygiene and cleaning practice
- teaching children in groups or 'bubbles' is at the discretion of each school setting
- maximizing the use of outdoor spaces
- physical distancing between adults in the setting including parents at drop-off and pick-up time
- parents should be actively discouraged from entering the school building
- social distancing requirements between pupils remain relaxed, but social distancing of 2m between adults remains and as far as possible between adults and pupils, depending on their age.

**Drop off/Pick up.**

The following is the guidance for drop off and pick up.

- Only 1 parent is to come to drop off/pick up, to minimise adults onsite
- Parents must ensure they leave the carpark swiftly after drop off
- Parents are not allowed in school building/playground unless they have made a prior appointment with the member of staff, with the exception of parents of P1 children who can walk their children to the side door for the first few weeks/until they have settled. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please telephone after school hours or send a dojo message. At present face to face meetings are not permitted.

- Parents are encouraged to use nearby parking areas or to walk to drop off/pickup.

### **Drop off**

From 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2021, children should arrive at school between 8.30am & 9.00am. At the minute there is no breakfast club so children should NOT be left off to school before 8.20am. Each child will enter the main playground and go to their designated door of entry, where they will be met by a classroom assistant who will supervise them sanitising their hands before walking straight to their class to be greeted by their class teacher. Children will wash their hands in their classroom. Children should bring their stationary items, as listed on dojo in June, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August, all clearly named. Children should use their red school folder to bring any school items between school and home, instead of a school bag. This reduces clutter in the classrooms and keeps all children's belongings safe and tidy. We have ordered more red school folders for children, so any child who no longer has their red folder should message their class teacher and a red folder will be sent home when the new order arrives.

### **Drop off entry points**

- ✓ Mrs Clarke's class – Side door entrance
- ✓ Miss Kyle's class – rear cloakroom door
- ✓ Miss Gibson's class - main front door
- ✓ Mrs Moore's class – main front door
- ✓ Mr Mills class –side door entrance
- ✓ Mrs Loane's class – mobile
- ✓ Mrs Porter's class – main front door

### **Pick up – 1/9/21.**

Parents are to wait in the car park (please wear a face covering if possible), adhering to social distancing guidelines, and teachers will bring their class into the playground in their class bubbles to be released to their parent at the gate, in class order beginning with the younger classes. Siblings from older classes will be released with their younger siblings at their relevant pick-up times.

#### Early pick up times

- ✓ P.1 – 1.35pm – daily
- ✓ P.2 – 1.40pm daily
- ✓ P3 – 1.45pm Tuesday & Thursday

#### Late pick up times

- ✓ P3 – 2.35pm – Monday/Wednesday/Friday
- ✓ P4/5 – 2.40pm daily
- ✓ P6/7 – 2.45pm daily

It is important that parents adhere to the drop off/pickup times and allow themselves time to park and collect their child promptly on time.

### **School uniform**

School uniform should be worn to school each day. Please label ALL items of clothing.

P.E. kits can be worn to school on days indicated by each teacher below, commencing on the week beginning 6/9/21.

#### **P.E. days**

Monday – P5 & P6

Tuesday – P1/2 – Mrs Clarke

Wednesday- P7

Thursday – P2/3 – Miss Kyle

Friday – P3 – Miss Gibson & P4

Children must bring a coat to school each day as there will be increased time outside.

### **School meals**

School meals will be available for children from 1/9/21. Children will eat their dinner/packed lunch in their classroom staying in their 'bubbles'. Packed lunches should be brought to school in either disposable packaging or a hard, plastic lunchbox that can be easily wiped and washed daily at home. These will be stored under/bedside the pupil's desk or in their class cloakroom.

Dinner money must be booked/paid for in advance, using the online payment app. This must be completed before 8.00am each Monday morning to ensure your child is included in the weekly dinner rota. Teachers do not have the time to check the booking system on a daily basis. The dinner menu for term 1 will be on the Parents Area of the school app and on the school website. School dinners currently cost £2.60 per day. School will not be providing healthy break at this time, so children should bring their own healthy snack/water daily, in an appropriate lunch box/sealed bag.

### **School transport**

All school transport services will resume as normal from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

Please see guidance below from Education Authority Transport Section.

#### **Here are the things that children can do to help keep themselves, and others, safe on their journey to school:**

- ✓ Wash their hands regularly and especially before you get on a vehicle.
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer when they get on board if it is provided.
- ✓ Wear a face covering when they can.
- ✓ Catch It, Bin It, Kill it! Carry tissues, cover coughs and sneezes.
- ✓ Give other passengers their space when queuing, and getting on and off the vehicle
- × DO NOT travel if you are experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19 symptoms or your household has been advised to isolate. If a child is displaying symptoms our EA driver may speak to a parent about making alternative arrangements.
- × DO NOT share personal items with other passengers.
- × DO NOT eat or drink on board (unless it is required for medical purposes).
- × DO NOT approach the driver.
- × DO NOT litter. Take any rubbish with you and dispose of it safely.

It is recommended that all pupils using EA transport wear a face covering for the duration of the journey. This needs to be stored in a plastic zip pouch until the return journey. If a disposable mask is used, this will be binned on arrival at school, and a fresh mask is needed for the return journey

### **Communication**

The main form of communication between home and school will be class dojo. There will be no home/school books/diaries. Please be mindful of the well-being of staff and when possible only contact them on this platform between 8.00am & 7.00pm. Parents can also email/telephone school with any queries/concerns they may have.

### **Symptoms**

Governmental advice states that children must **NOT** come to school if they have any of the following symptoms: -

- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a change in or loss of sense of taste or smell

We ask that parents do not give medicine to children to reduce their temperature.

Any child who display any of these symptoms in school will be isolated and parents will be contacted to bring their child and any siblings in school, home. All parent contact details must be up-to-date.

If your child is unable to attend school due to Coronavirus symptoms please contact the school to let us know by telephone, email or class dojo by 9.10am, on the morning of absence. If staff are unable to answer the phone, please leave a message on the answer machine. A dojo message/email explaining any absence should also be sent to the class teacher on or before a pupil returns to school and school will also now fill in a special COVID form as a record of absence due to Coronavirus.

Cases in our local area are currently very high and it is imperative that we do not drop our guard at this stage. We all need to work together as a school community to keep our children, our staff, our parents and our wider school family all safe.

Many thanks

J Clarke