

Eastbank Primary School

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# Acting Head Teacher

**Angela McBurnie**

4th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Revised Return to School – August 2020**

Hello all! We are delighted to confirm that by the 18th August all of our wonderful Eastbank Stars will be back in school full time with us. We have been working behind the scenes over the last few days and indeed weeks, trying to get things organised for your return. Thank you to our Eastbank family TEAM for all that they have done during this time. Staff and parents have worked together to create a phased return that is in the best interests of our Eastbank family. Some of the information in this letter is repeated from the previous letter and is in *italics*.

We know that things are changing all the time and want to reassure you that we have a plan in place for any eventuality. We are ready for home learning and blended learning should things change suddenly at any point.

We will begin with two days for each blended learning group and then have all the children return on Tuesday 18th August. We will continue to have staggered starts and finishes as this will reduce congestion and help facilitate physical distancing for our staff. We will send you a confirmation text on Monday 10th August for your child(ren)’s specific time, however, the times will remain the same as your previous times. If you have more than one child in the school please arrive at the latest time and pick up at the latest time. Primary 1’s are being asked to arrive at 10.30am on their first day and come in to the school playground with one adult per child and physical distancing rules will apply.

**Our Red group (which would have been our Monday/Tuesday children) will have their phased return on Wednesday 12th August and begin their full learning timetable on Friday 14th August.**

**Our Blue group (which would have been our Thursday/Friday children) will have their phased return on Thursday 13th August and begin their full learning timetable on Friday 14th August.**

*You will be asked to drop your child at the Gartocher/Shettleston Road gates, if you have more than one child they will all come through the youngest child’s gate before heading to their school entrance. Please do not wait at the gate as this will cause congestion.* **When you are collecting your child please wait along the fence as usual if you are P1-P3, physically distanced. Your designated collection area will be signposted; Primary 1’s’ will be at the car park end of Gartocher Road; Primary 2’s at the Shettleston Road end of Gartocher Road; Primary 3’s on Shettleston Road. If you have a child in P4-P7 please arrange a pick up point at a safe distance from the school to avoid congestion. If they have a younger sibling in P1-3 all children can be collected from the designated area.** *Please adhere to physical distancing guidelines and stay safe. If a child is distressed there will be staff in the playground to help.*

Please continue to bear with us and our school community as we all adjust to this new normal. We will revise each part of our school day regularly. *If you are not able to make your 10 minute arrival slot, please do not come to school until 10am. The child will enter through their designated gate and press the front door buzzer (this will be wiped down regularly).*

Breakfast club will be running for all children and application forms will be available from the school on Monday 10th August 2020.

*The link for the contact details is here:*

[*https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/17885/Clothing-Grants-and-Free-School-Meals*](https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/17885/Clothing-Grants-and-Free-School-Meals)

Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered to allow for physical distancing. All children will be able to use the lunch facilities and there will be an option to pay by BACS (preferably) or by cash*. Please ensure that you provide your child with a snack each day. All children in P1-P4 are still entitled to a free school meal. All packed lunches will be eaten in class before children go out to their play zones.*

*Please make sure you label ALL clothes and items brought to school, not just for identification but also for health and safety. Please also ensure your child brings a jacket EVERY day as outdoor learning will feature heavily in our new normal and the children could be out in all weathers. Children should only bring their jacket, packed lunch (if they are not choosing a school lunch) and a water bottle. All learning resources will be provided in school.* **Your child can bring a bag if they wish but they cannot bring their own toys, pens, pencils, pencil cases etc.**

*On the first day however, we welcome all children to bring a ‘Happiness Box’ with them that will stay in their tray in school. This should have a trinket or two that will remind them of home and make them feel safe, happy and relaxed. These trinkets should be only one to keep in their tray or in small box that can be kept on their desk or stored in their tray. Some examples may be a small toy or teddy, jewellery, perfume, a note or letter etc.*

*Due to changes in the number of children on the school roll and the number of teachers within the school it has been necessary to form a composite class at some stages. This will be a small class of 25 children or fewer. The smaller number of children will mean that children will benefit from an increase in teacher interaction. Your child may have been one of those selected to form the composite class. The creation of a composite class will not inhibit the progress of learning for those children in this class.*

*Please feel free to contact me about any concerns you have. A leaflet explaining the reasons for forming composite classes is on the school website.*

We will continue to utilise Seesaw to set homework tasks and send out information. I understand online access hasn’t been easy for everyone and welcome you to contact us should you need assistance and/or support.

*This year we are asking you to download both the Class App and the Family App. Class will be used to upload work and Families will be used to contact your teacher and for online support. If you have more than one child at the school just use the oldest child’s login for the family app and you can ask about any child through this. If this has been a struggle for you, please do let us know and we will do all we can to support you.*

*Fire safety procedures will be as normal and we will ensure all children have had several practices of their route and their muster points on the first couple of weeks of school. Should your child fall ill during the school day normal procedures would apply, however, our first aiders may be required to wear an apron, gloves and mask. Should anyone display symptoms of COVID we will accompany them to a separate well ventilated room and contact someone to come and collect them as soon as possible. If your child is displaying symptoms at home please do not send them to school under any circumstances.* **They should isolate for 10 days and the rest of the household should isolate for 14 days.**

*We will have hand sanitizer at the school entrance, anti-bacterial spray and wipes in the classrooms and children will have a regular hand washing routine in place in class. Please do not send your child to school with hand sanitizer as this can be easily misplaced. If you would like your child to have hand cream they can keep this in their tray for personal use.*

*We will be looking for our new captains and house captains but due to the situation we will take applications in the new school year.*

*As part of our approach to Health and Wellbeing we will be using our PATHS curriculum alongside The Compassionate and Connected Classroom. The Compassionate and Connected Classroom is a health and wellbeing resource which supports all children to cope with challenges and adversity and develop their confidence, resilience, compassion and empathy. A full leaflet can be found on the school website.*

*CLOTHING GRANTS*

*If you received a grant last year you do* ***not*** *need to apply this year, we will pay you automatically in early July. You must however let us know now if your circumstances have changed such as your bank details or address. Visit our website at* [*www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning*](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning) *to complete an online enquiry form.*

*If you are a new applicant, forms will be available on our website mid-July, once the automatic payments have been made. To find out more information please visit our website* [*www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning*](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning)

*If you are looking to purchase school uniform, it can be bought online here* [*www.border-embroideries.co.uk*](http://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/)*. We would encourage children not to wear ties at this point, especially clip on ties, as these can be easily lost.* **Please do not come to the office unless asked to by a member of staff. All queries should come via phone call or email in the first instance.**

*Glasgow City Council have created a new page on the external web-site, on the Schools and Learning page, titled ‘Recovery, resilience, re-connection 2020’ for parents. This will be your go to page for information over the summer* [*https://glasgow.gov.uk/article/25947/Recovery-Resilience-and-Reconnection-2020*](https://glasgow.gov.uk/article/25947/Recovery-Resilience-and-Reconnection-2020)*. However, there will still be communication from us over text, Seesaw or email. Information may be also be found on the school website.*

**Please ensure you follow Scottish Government guidelines in relation to holidays and time in quarantine.**

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday and I so look forward to welcoming you all back to school next week.

Best wishes and stay safe!

Kind regards,

Angela McBurnie

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Eastbank Primary School

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