

Parent Communication 6th January 2022

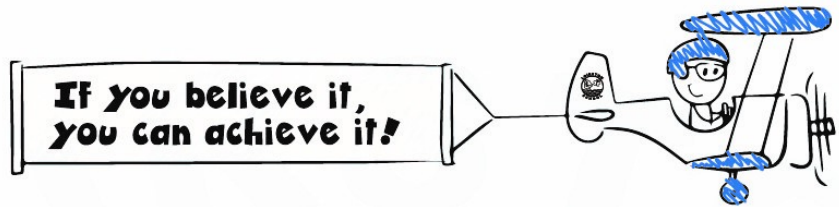
Dear Parent/Carer,

A very HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone! We hope you had a fantastic holiday over the unusually mild Christmas break. We are delighted to open as normal this week after some speculation due to the increasing numbers of positive Covid cases across Scotland. With that in mind, when we return to school tomorrow, it is important that we continue to work together to ensure that all the safety mitigations are followed so that we can continue to remain open.

We are aware there are lots of things to remember and we very much appreciate everyone's support with adhering to them. Below is a reminder of the mitigations that are currently in place. Those marked in Green are changes that we have made from the latest set of government guidance.



- ★ School starts at 9am for P1-7 pupils, please do not arrive before 8.50am. Children should continue to enter through their identified entry door. **P5T will now enter through the fire door of the classroom adjacent to them. They will be shown this on the first day back.**
- ★ Nursery will return as normal from 8am. Please ensure social distancing is maintained as you drop off/ pick up.
- ★ Anyone entering the building will sanitise their hands when they enter and when they leave.
- ★ Hand washing will remain a priority. Anyone entering the building should wash their hands as soon as they enter, frequently throughout the day, after using the bathroom, and again before they leave the building.
- ★ **When indoors, classes will now work as a 'bubble' to eliminate contamination. There may be circumstances when small groups of pupils need to work together from across the school. When this happens, all mitigations will be followed and groups will remain 2m apart where possible considering the needs of the specific children.**
- ★ The children will continue to enjoy break and lunch together when in the playground.
- ★ During the lunches, classes will continue to be sat in their class/ bubble. They will enter/ leave the hall with their class bubble.
- ★ Parents/ Carers should wear a face covering if they are entering the playground. We know there are times that it is easy to forget, therefore, there will be members of staff outside in the morning/ afterschool who will be providing face masks for those who have forgotten. If you are exempt, please ensure your lanyard is visible.
- ★ If a child tests positive for Covid-19, parents are advised to contact the school by telephone or email as soon as possible.
- ★ If your child has any symptoms of Covid-19, we ask that you do not put them or any other members of the family to school that day. Please call the school to let us know then book a



PCR test. Once the results are in, please inform the school to let us know of the outcome. We do understand how frustrating this can be, however we appreciate your support to help to keep all our staff and pupils safe.

- ★ Any pupils/ staff who develop any symptoms of Covid-19 during the school day will be sent home immediately and advised to book a PCR test.
- ★ **Any visitors to the school who are not supporting wellbeing, should visit no more than 3 schools over the week.**

The latest Covid Risk Assessment will be sent out to parents and carers this week and will shortly be visible on our school website.

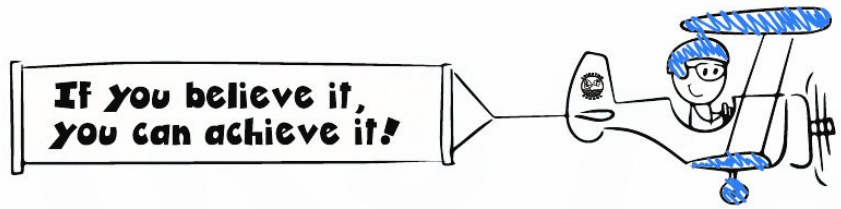
Staffing

This term we welcome a few new members of staff to the Loirston Team. Firstly we give a warm welcome to Ms Chantelle Donegan who will be covering Primary 4QM till summer. We don't have a confirmed start date for Ms Donegan, we hope it to be mid January, once her paperwork has been cleared. Until then, Mrs MacCallum and Mr Pirie will be covering the class till her start date is confirmed. We have no doubt the children will be delighted to start the year with some familiar faces.

Our second new recruit is Mrs Danni Joyce who will also start around mid January. She will be taking over from Miss McFarlene in P4CM when she leaves to take up her new post as PT of the Fit Like Hubs at the February long weekend. Miss McFarlene has been a great member of the Loirston team and her wealth of knowledge around additional support needs, in particular autism, has been invaluable. We are very grateful for all the support she has given the school and wish her all the best for her new venture. Mrs Joyce will be covering Non Class Contact Time across the school until February which will give her a chance to familiarise herself with the school before settling into P4CM in February. We are delighted to have both new members of staff as part of our team.

Dates for your Diary

Parent Meetings	Virtual	End of Jan/ Beginning of Feb
P1 and ELC Enrolment	ACC Website	By 17th January
Individual School Photographs	In School	Tuesday 1st February
Mid Term Holiday	Day Off	Monday 14th February
Inservice Day	Staff Only	Tuesday 15th February



Inservice Day

Staff Only

Wednesday 16th February

We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone return tomorrow.

Kindest regards,

Miss Watt

Head Teacher