



St Joseph's Primary School

58-62 Main Street
Killough
Co. Down
BT30 7QD

Principal: Mrs F Macfarlane

Tel: 02844842072

6th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As of Monday 11th January the Minister of Education has closed Nursery and Primary Schools and instructed staff to provide remote learning opportunities for children. PHA and medical advice recommends that **the safest place for children to be at this time is at home** if they possibly can.

During this time, school will open to cater for those children of Key Workers and those children that the Department of Education would class as Vulnerable. To be eligible and avail of supervised learning at school your child/ren must fall into these categories.

If you wish to book your child/ren in for supervised learning, you must complete the booking form, which is attached to this letter and return to school no later than 11am on Friday 8th January.

This is essential as we need to ensure we have appropriate staffing ratio in school to supervise children.

Expectations for Remote Learning

Teachers will provide work packs for all children. These should be collected between 9am and 12 Noon on the Monday of each week. Work from the previous week should be returned at this time. This work will be marked, feedback given and returned the following week.

On Monday teachers will also upload information that will provide guidance on expectations for that week.

We expect pupils to log into their Google Classroom/Seesaw accounts and complete activities which have been set for them. We will use this information as part of our off-site attendance strategy as it will inform us that pupils are carrying on with their work.

Please note- Seesaw P1/2 and Google Classroom P3-7. In the event of any difficulties uploading larger documents to Seesaw P1/2 may need to also use Google Classroom. Parents will be informed of this if necessary.

If you are experiencing any problems, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. E-mail addresses have been sent home in your packs.

The daily point of contact will be Mrs Macfarlane and in her absence, Mrs Collins. Contact can be made via e-mail fmacfarlane679@c2kni.net and kcollins846@c2kni.net or by telephoning the school. E-mails and queries will be responded to during school directed time hours.

Supervised Learning at School

School will operate from 9am-3pm. Breakfast Club will be available 8.15-9.45am. Children in P1-P3 may go home at 2pm however, supervision can continue until 3pm. **School will close at 2pm on Friday.** All children should attend school in their full school uniform where possible.

Children will enter via the main front door. Parents will not be allowed into the school buildings in line with COVID-19 guidelines and protocols.

Children will be supervised in the classroom by classroom assistants however, teachers will always be available. This will not be face-to-face teaching. Teachers will be present as they will be planning for continued online and remote learning opportunities.

Children must be provided with their healthy break and water as normal. We will update guidance in relation to Free School Meals as soon as it becomes available.

I very much appreciate your ongoing support during a time that is very challenging for us all.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Fiona Macfarlane